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Honga : the leader, v. 06, no. 12

American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc.

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HONGA

"THE LEADER"



VOLUME VI, No. 12

AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER OF OMAHA, INC.

December, 1981

A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Indian Community,

The year of 1981 will close and the new year of 1982 shall begin. We can all look back over the old year and our memory will recall many happy times and some sad times. We can also reflect on our lives and see what we did to make it better and what we did to help our brothers and sisters. Each life must have a purpose. It is now time to self-evaluate ourselves and determine to make 1982 a more self-fulfilling year.

Very recently, our staff proudly handed me a copy of the Client Services Intake Statistical Report and after I had reviewed it, I could understand why they were indeed proud. According to this annual report, 2,128 persons had been assisted with 5,046 units of service. By contrast, the 1980 census figure for Douglas and Saryp Counties showed 2,400+ Indians.

In the coming year ahead, we hope to have more services available to assist the Indian community in their social struggle.

At the recent "Open House" more than 600 people participated in the Thanksgiving dinner and ceremonies. We wish to thank all those persons who came to extend their support. Overheard were comments as "never before have I seen as many Indians together in Omaha" and "everyone seems so happy." Our staff did a tremendous job in making the event come true. I would like to single out Joan Garey, Sherrill, Clyde, Brian, Ina, Curtis and Alvin. If I forgot to mention your name, please forgive me. Without the help of others this could not have been made possible.

The AICO will give turkeys to families and candy to the children December 22, 1981 for Christmas.

The staff would like to thank the Board of Directors for volunteering their many hours of service.

The Center will be closed Christmas Day and New Year's Day.

We wish all our readers and members of the Indian community a very warm Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

Sincerely,

Wayne Tyndall

Wayne Tyndall

IN MEMORY...

Sad news came to the staff of AICO when it was learned that Edward Crawford, Area Alcoholism Coordinator had passed away. Mr. Crawford suffered a heart attack at Aberdeen, South Dakota. He was from Sisseton, South Dakota.

Mr. Crawford was a very kind person and was in the midst of helping us with our alcoholism grant that is being transferred to the Indian Health Service.

On behalf of the Indian community of Omaha, the AICO gave his family a Pendleton Indian blanket with a sympathy card. The family was very grateful.

OPEN HOUSE...

November 21 marked the official dedication and open house of the expansion of the new facilities at the American Indian Center of Omaha.

For several years the headquarters of the Center had been located in a small 2,900 sq.ft. section of our present building at 613 S. 16th St. Through the effort of the Economic Development Department of the Center, new facilities were contracted for, renovation funds were acquired from the City, labor provided for by CETA, and finally the arduous task of moving into the new facilities.

The ribbon cutting for the dedication was performed by Mr. Bernie Simon, president of the Omaha City Council, Rufus White gave the blessing of the building and finally a traditional Thanksgiving Dinner was served to all the guests in the Elderly Diners' Site and the Conference Room. An added attraction for the guests during the meal was watching Nebraska defeat Oklahoma on two large color television sets.

The new facilities include the Elderly Diners' Site, Bright Eyes Trading Post, upstairs administrative offices, classrooms, Board of Directors' office, staff lounge, and space for a future Indian library.

Once again, we wish to thank all those persons who made the Open House a success!!

MERRY CHRISTMAS

AND

HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

HOLIDAY NEWS...

The Health & Nutrition Department originally submitted a list of eleven families to Mutual of Omaha's "Halo Club" for Thanksgiving Baskets, eight of these families were accepted. We also submitted 50 family names to the World-Herald "Good Fellows" for Christmas Gifts. The Good-Fellows usually accept all names that we submit. If you were on that list, you will soon be receiving a call or letter from the Good-Fellows verifying your address.

For the Thanksgiving Holiday, 120 turkeys were distributed to needy families in our community. The selection process as always was a hard and difficult task and we regret that not everyone who signed up could receive a turkey, but criteria was based on need and family size.

Before the Christmas Holiday, we will be giving more turkeys to the needy and you can come in and sign up at the front desk of the American Indian Center. Hopefully, if we did miss you at Thanksgiving, we can help you this time. Of particular importance, when signing up for a Christmas turkey, be careful and follow all the written instructions on the sign-up sheet. If you do not put your complete address down, number and ages of children, phone number, etc. this could be sufficient reason to be deleted from the list. We can only select on the basis of the information that you give us.

From the staff of the Health & Nutrition Department, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year!!!

TRADING POST NEWS...

The Bright Eyes Trading Post wants to thank all the people who took time to visit the store during the Grand Opening of the store. Since the opening, everything has been operating smoothly.

We would like to have more people bring in their crafts.

Our store hours are from 8 - 5 Mon. thru Friday and 12 - 4 Sat. and Sun. These hours are temporary.

Chalk portraits are being done by by Jim Zuroski. If interested, call Myrna Red Owl at the Trading Post, 344-0111, ext. 6.

ALCOHOLISM PROGRAM MOVES...

The Alcoholism Program is in the process of renovating their new facility at 3483 Larimore Street. At this time, it appears that the Treatment Center and Halfway House will become operational sometime in mid-January. The program will be sharing the former nurses' dormitory with Drew's Halfway House and the Catholic Social Services Alcoholism Program. The new facility will be capable of housing ten clients on an inpatient basis, with the possibility of expansion in the future.

The Alcoholism Program recently purchased a 12 passenger van which will be extremely valuable when we move into our new facility.

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ty. The van will be used to transport our clients to and from outside A.A. meetings and to recreational activities.

Along with the opening of the new facility, the following jobs will be available:

1. Alcoholism Counselor
2. Halfway House Manager
3. Chef/Dietician
4. Senior Head Counselor

For more information on the jobs, contact the staff of the Alcoholism Program at 344-0111, ext. 14.

CETA DEPARTMENT...

The Indian Center plans to provide vocational training in the field of printing in the near future.

Space has been made available at the Center and a professional instructor has offered to train any interested persons who would like to enter this field. Details for the project are now being finalized.

Patricia Stevens Beauty School will conduct a seminar on cosmetology and modeling at their campus on 39th & Davenport, Wednesday, December 9 from 4:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. The seminar is free and interested persons can contact Frances Chamberlain at the Center.

On December 10, Mr. Alfred Eble from Concordia College in Seward, Nebraska will be at the Indian Center to discuss admission and enrollment requirements to Concordia College. Mr. Eble has expressed a desire to see more Native Americans enroll at Concordia. He has also been visiting the three Nebraska Reservations for this purpose.

There will be refreshments served and we anticipate a large attendance (7 p.m. to 8.)

Anyone interested in seeking employment can stop into the CETA office Monday through Friday from 8 - 5 p.m. We have a Job Listing and a Job Viewer is available for you to look through. Referrals can also be made for those interested in vocational training. For more information, you can contact the CETA office.

FLANDREAU - A SCHOOL FOR YOUNG INDIANS

Flandreau Indian School is recruiting for Indian students. If you feel that you are on the verge of dropping out of school and are experiencing the following areas, you should plan to attend Flandreau.

1. You are having class attendance problems.
2. You live in a remote area.
3. You live in a large Metropolitan Area and you don't fit in.
4. You are failing in school and getting lost in the crowd.
5. You feel the need to identify and associate with other Indians.
6. You feel the need to attend a special school.

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The Flandreau Indian School, an off-reservation boarding school operated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs, is an accredited four (4) year high school. Courses of study are offered in the following areas:

General Courses of Study
Vocational
College Prep Classes
Special Education

For more information on Flandreau come to look at the material available at the AICO. You may also write or call: Jack Belkam, Superintendent, Flandreau Indian School, Flandreau, South Dakota 57028 or Phone (605) 997-2451.

YOUTH PROGRAM NOTES...

The AICO Youth Volleyball team has been invited to a co-ed volleyball tournament in Horton, Kansas on December 6th and 7th. The tournament is being sponsored by the Kickapoo Youth Development Program. Although we don't have an established volleyball team at present, we have been forced to put one together just for this occasion. We have some fine young Indian athletes and we feel our team should perform well.

The AICO Youth Basketball team traveled to Lincoln on November 28th to play the Lincoln Indian Center's Youth Team. It was a tremendous game with very few fouls committed. The final outcome was Lincoln 76 and AICO 54. The boys were a little depressed after this loss but after a short Knute Rockne talk, they quickly wanted a rematch. So be ready Lincoln, because we are "coming at ya!"

A final note to all the girls from 8 to 16. If you want to get a regular volleyball team started, contact Tom Harlan at 344-0111 before it's too late. We have uniforms available.

INDIAN CHILD RESOURCE NEWS...

The formal application for the licensing of the AICO Indian Child Resource Center as a Child Placing Agency was approved by the AICO Board of Directors and will be submitted to the State of Nebraska for their approval.

The Yankton Sioux Tribe, through its authorized Child Welfare Program, directed by Ms. M. Cavendar, related that the Indian Child Resource Center will be able to intervene in matters concerning the Indian Child Welfare Act.

ICRC is communicating with the Winnebago BIA Agency, Omaha and Winnebago tribes in Nebraska regarding future involvement in Indian Child Welfare cases.

If your organization has any unique social, economic or legal problems regarding the Indian Child Welfare Act, we would like to establish contact with you. As an extension of your tribal court the Indian Child Resource Center is available for any

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assistance on the Act.

Indian parents or parents of Indian descent, we need you as Indian foster parents. All inquiries will be answered and kept confidential.

STAFF PROFILE - Albert Milk

Mr. Albert R. Milk joined the American Indian Center staff in July 1981 as the Director of the newly established Indian Child Resource Center which is funded by the BIA. Mr. Milk has a bachelor's degree in Social Work from the University of South Dakota, class of 1976. He also attended the Institute of American Indian Arts in Sante Fe, New Mexico. Mr. Milk is a Vietnam Veteran, serving in the U.S. Marine Corps from 1968-1970.

Albert enjoys spectator sports, tempera painting, pencil drawing, and all types of music.

In his new position, Mr. Milk states his immediate goals for the program as "implementing the Indian Child Welfare Act of 1978 through established policies and procedures and creating a cooperative working relationship with all agencies that are involved in the Act. The challenge is tremendous, however, the Indian Child Resource Center can be a valuable asset to these agencies."

The American Indian Center welcomes "Al" to the staff and wishes him the very best in his new job.

TITLE IV UPDATE...

The Title IV Indian Education Program will hold its annual Christmas Party at Ft. Omaha on December 17. Activities will include a Pot-luck Dinner, a visit from Santa for students Kindergarten to 6th grade. A choir will sing Christmas Carols, a movie, games and other entertainment. Also at this time, a public meeting will be held to discuss the Title IV Grant Proposal for the 1981-82 school year. Time: 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

BOOK OF MORMON CHANGED...

A new edition of the Book of Mormon alters a controversial prophecy that American Indians who join the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints will become a "white and delightsome people." The new edition of the book says Indian converts will become a "pure and delightsome people." The phrase had provoked criticism from Indians approached by Mormon missionaries. (The Mormon Church believes that the characters in the Book of Mormon are ancestors of the present-day American Indians.)

(Taken from the Nov. 1981 Talking Leaf)

The American Indian Center Presents will soon air on WOW-FM Radio. With Helen Hiatt and Matt Little Moon as commentators. Listen for it.

CLIENT STATISTICS...

The American Indian Center Client Statistics for fiscal year 1981 have recently been compiled for all departments.

Final tabulation for clients, indicates 2,128 served with 5,046 services provided for. Statistics were for the Alcoholism Program; Health & Nutrition Department; Indian Child Resource Center; CETA Employment Program; Youth Department; Adult Basic Education (GED) Project; Legal Services; and Energy Assistance.

These statistics show that an average of 2.4 services were given to each client that was assisted by the Indian Center.

With added programs for the next year, we hope to go beyond total clients served and services provided for.

If anyone is interested in reviewing the detailed CLIENT SERVICES INTAKE STATISTICAL REPORT, they can drop by the Center and see Clyde Tyndall.

PATTI PAGE IN OMAHA...

Miss Patti Page will be returning to Omaha for the first time in 23 years. She will perform at the Orpheum Theatre, January 23.

Miss Page has sold over 70 million records over the past 30 years.

Of particular interest, is the fact that Miss Page is a Cherokee Indian. Try to make her show if you can.

STAFF MEMBERS ATTEND WORKSHOP...

Three of our staff members have been in Kansas City, Kansas attending a week long Grantsmanship Workshop.

Brian Victoria, Economic Development Director; Sherrill Holmgren, Economic Development Assistant; and Elmer Necklace, Acting Alcoholism Program Director are receiving in-depth training in the intricacies of grant proposal writing. With this training, our Economic Development Department will be able to do valuable foundation research and general fund-raising work for the Indian Community.

AUTUMN...

I like to think of Autumn
When the leaves turn gold and brown

I like to think of Autumn
When Thanksgiving comes around

Its a time of a sharing
A time of thanksgiving
And a time to have fun

To think of all our friendships
And loved ones.

YOUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS...

Recently, during the Open House, a family was heard asking the question, "I don't really know who the Board of Directors are." This is not the first time such comments were heard. For the interest of the community and the public at large, we are listing the names of the American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc.'s Board of Directors:

Logan Fontenelle.....Chairman

(Vacant).....Vice Chairman

Loretta McClarnon.....Secretary

Glenna Slater.....Treasurer

Violet Gladfelter.....Member

Josephine Clinchers.....Member

Matthew Little Moon.....Member

Diane P. Walker.....Member

Louis Crispin.....Member

AICO INVITED TO MINNEAPOLIS CONFERENCE...

The American Indian Center has been invited to attend the National Urban Indian Council's upcoming "Community and Economic Development Strategies Overview Forum".

The forum will be held the 14th, 15th, and 16th of December. Either the Executive Director or the Assistant Director will attend this event. Among the topics to be discussed are:

1. Community Development Block Grants
2. Legal Issues affecting Community and Economic Development
3. Tax Structures
4. General Technical Guidance Sessions

PROVERBS OF THE "OMAHA"...

"Stolen food never satisfies hunger."

"A poor man is a hard rider."

"All persons dislike a borrower."

"No one mourns the thriftless."

"The path of the lazy leads to disgrace."

"A man must make his own arrows."

"A handsome face does not make a good husband."

(Taken from The Omaha Tribe, Vol.II, Alice C. Fletcher and Francis La Fleshe)

AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER OF OMAHA, INC.

CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES

DECEMBER, 1981

MONDAYS	7:00 PM	Local WARN Group meetings Contact Delores Quinlan, 733-2437
TUESDAYS	7:00 PM to 9:30 PM	GED Classes - American Indian Center Classroom.
WEDNESDAYS	7:00 PM to 9:30 PM	GED Classes - American Indian Center Classroom.
THURSDAYS	6:00 PM to 8:00 PM	Contact Tom Harlan for basketball practice.
FRIDAYS	7:00 PM	Alcoholism Program meeting at the American Indian Center Conference Room, contact Elmer Necklace or Marian Warman at 344-0111, ext. 14.

Friday, December 4, at 8:00 p.m. Dennis Alley's "Wisdom Indian Dancers" performing authentic Native American Dances & Songs at the UNO Performing Arts Auditorium, 60th & Dodge St.

Friday-Sunday, December 4-6. American Indian Center Youth Volleyball Team to Horton, Kansas for Kickapoo Volleyball Tournament.

Saturday, December 5, at 10:00 a.m. Dennis Alley's Professional Indian Dance Clinic at the American Indian Center, 2nd Floor.

Thursday, December 10, 7:00 p.m. Mr. Alfred Eble, Concordia College (NE) representative at the American Indian Center to recruit Native American students for entry into college.

Thursday, December 17, at 7:00 p.m. Monthly Board of Directors meeting at the American Indian Center. Community invited.

Tuesday, December 22, from 12 Noon - 5 p.m. American Indian Center Christmas Turkey Give-away.

Tuesday, December 22, from 3:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. "Skate-Party" at Cheap Skate Roller Rink, 90th & Maple. Contact Tom Harlan at 344-0111.

Saturday, December 12. Doane College vs. UNO at UNO Fieldhouse. Contact Tom Harlan for tickets for your children.

Saturday, December 19. Kearney State College vs. UNO at UNO Field House.

FLASH!

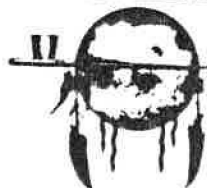
The AICO Youth Volleyball Team coached by Tom Harlan and Enoch Miller, captured 2nd Place in the Kickapoo Youth Volleyball Tournament held in Horton, Kansas December 5th.

Team members include:

Brian Parker, Darrin Parker, Nate Parker, Jr., Moses Morris, Ronnie Morris, Denise Garey, Leslie Walker, Carrie Rice, Jackie Colvin, and Carrie Andresen.

Carrie Andresen was voted the MOST VALUABLE GIRL PLAYER for the tournament. The only loss suffered was to the Kickapoo #1 Team.

This success was quite a feat because the team had never practiced together before and had never met one another until they departed. This goes to show, that the talent is here in the community, we only have to get the kids interested in joining the teams. If your kids can play volleyball or basketball, send them down to see Tom Harlan.



AMERICAN INDIAN CENTER OF OMAHA INC.

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