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## Honga : the leader, v. 05, no. 08-12

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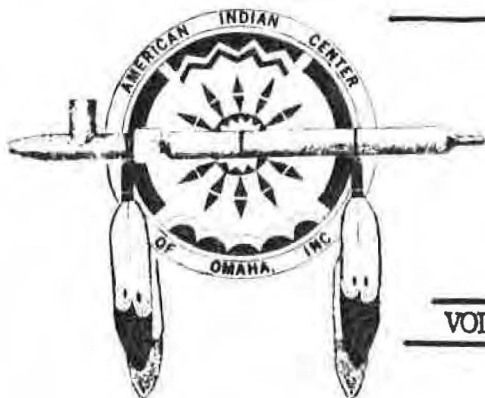
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# HONGA

VOLUME 5, No. 8-12

"The Leader"

December 1982

## MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It has been a couple of months since our last HONGA went to press. Meanwhile we have had to make new adjustments and set new priorities. We had applied for two major grants from ANA totaling more than four hundred thousand dollars but due to budget cuts at the national level and federal policy toward urban organizations these were denied. We were, however, successful in obtaining a three month extension for close out of the accounts and restructuring the organizational chart. We understand two new announcements have been published which we are eligible to apply under.

This was our last year for CSA funds before they were given to the State as one of several block grants. Accordingly we have applied to the state for such funds only to be denied them. Consequently we have filed a civil rights class action suit against the State of Nebraska, Dept. of Public Welfare with the Office of Civil Rights. They are presently investigating the allegations and will release their findings mid-February 1983. The Greater Omaha Community Action agency (GOCA) on December 7th voted unanimously to extend our Social Services Coordinator's salary for three additional months pending the outcome of the Civil Rights investigation.

Some of our staff salaries will be picked up by United Way of the Midlands beginning January 1983. They have expressed concern over our loss of federal funds and have assured us that they will do what they can to help us through this financial crisis. We realize that our urban Native Americans will face some hard times this winter, but please bear with us until we can get things straightened out with the state. We have a new Governor, Robert Kerrey and are confident that he will be aware of our situation and give us fair treatment. We work close-

*Continued on Next Column*

ly with other social service agencies in metropolitan Omaha and will do all we can to meet your needs when you come to us for assistance.

Sincerely,

Wayne M. Tyndall  
Executive Director

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## FLANDREAU INDIAN SCHOOL

Jack Belkham, the Superintendent at the Flandreau Indian School, Flandreau, South Dakota has announced that the Flandreau Indian School Christmas Vacation will start on December 17, 1982, and school will resume again on January 5, 1983. Busses will depart from Flandreau on the morning of December 17th and will arrive back on the Flandreau Indian School campus on January 4th.

Applications are now being accepted for the Second Semester. The Flandreau Indian School is a secondary off-reservation boarding high school operated by the Bureau of Indian Affairs.

For more information on the school, contact Superintendent Jack Belkham at 605-997-2451.

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We wish you a  
Happy  
Holiday Season.

## DEPARTMENT HIGHLIGHTS

Beginning October 1, of this year, the American Indian Center of Omaha Alcoholism Program has officially changed its name to the "Four Winds Alcoholism Program". In addition to the name change, the program has expanded its treatment schedule from 30-days to 60-days. The additional time allows for more intensive treatment for clients who are referred to us.

Mr. Elmer Necklace resigned as Program Director of the program on November 10, to accept a position as Native American Alcoholism Counselor with the Hastings Regional Center. Mr. Ralph Preston, the Head Counselor of the program is currently the Acting Program Director until Mr. Necklace's position can be filled. We wish Elmer the best of luck in his new job. He will be missed by all the staff. The staff and Board had a farewell party for Elmer in appreciation of his good work.

The Advisory Board of the Four Winds Program met on December 1, 1982. Five members were present. It was a very productive two-hour meeting. We appreciate the time the members donate to assist our program. We hope to have all nine members at the next meeting.

Beverly Lovell was hired on November 1, as Alcoholism Counselor. Beverly has volunteered with the alcoholism program since we closed our doors at the old facility. She also offered many hours of valuable volunteer time when we were searching for a new counselor. We are pleased to have Ms. Lovell on staff with our program.

The Employment & Training Program will not begin full operation until January reports Mr. Fred LeRoy. Mr. LeRoy, who has been the Director of this program for the last year is temporarily laid off until funds from the Department of Labor are forthcoming. At present, AICO is without an employment program, however, anyone interested in job placement, on-the-job training or classroom training will be referred to CETA at 5002 So. 33rd St. or O.I.C., 2724 No. 24th St.

The AICO Youth Basketball Team has joined two leagues this season. Mr. Tom Harlan, Youth Coordinator has his young men entered into the Protestant Christian Athletic Association's Senior High League and the P.C.A.A. North Division. In games played thus far, AICO lost a last minute game to American Lutheran 65-63 on Decem-

ber 6th. On December 7th, the AICO team defeated Beautiful Savior 65-27 with Jeff Smith scoring 14 points to lead the AICO attack. Mr. Harlan believes that the young AICO team will win the first place trophy this year. "I've had a chance to scout all the other teams in the two leagues and I don't believe we'll lose another game to anyone this year." said Mr. Harlan. For a schedule of league games, interested persons can call Tom at 344-0111. Community members should get out and support our team and show them we are behind them. We may have one of our best teams ever.

The Indian Child Welfare Program will begin in January of the new year. A Coordinator for this program will be hired on December 16th. AICO has been referring all cases to the Winnebago Indian Child Welfare office since they remain funded for this program and are the nearest. All inquiries should be made to them until January.

Joan Garey is still operating the Social Service Program on a referral basis only, due to budget restrictions and until refunding is available for direct client assistance.

This year, AICO will once again offer tax assistance to the Indian community. Only short forms will be filled out and those wishing assistance should be sure to bring all supporting documents. Persons should call before you come and ask for either Wayne Tyndall or Paul Stacoffe for an appointment.

Mr. Brian Victoria, Community Development Director, has been busily attending to AICO economic development efforts. He is currently putting together a Capital Funds Campaign scheduled to begin in January 1983. If successful, this campaign will allow AICO to complete the purchase of its present facilities. Brian also continues to work on securing the necessary funding to purchase and renovate the 51 unit Kent Apartments near 24th & Leavenworth Sts.

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## COURT ORDERS UNITED STATES TO TAKE ACTION ON PRE-1966 INDIAN CLAIMS

U.S. District Judge Howard Corcoran ruled November 17 that the Federal Government had failed to properly represent Indian interests in approximately 17,000 potential claims arising from a variety of causes predating 1966. The court ordered the government to submit legislation or file lawsuits to resolve the claims for damages. Most of these claims are based on alleged trespass, denial of fishing rights, destruction of property, breaches of contract or other improper taking of property. Judge Corcoran ruled that the Justice and Interior Departments failed to meet a requirement in a 1980 law that the agencies either file lawsuits to protect the claims or propose legislation to Congress to resolve them. Under existing law the statute of limitations would nullify these claims for damages effective December 31, 1982. Legislation to extend the deadline beyond the end of this year is pending in Congress and was to be acted on by the lame duck session which convened November 29. Judge Corcoran had urged all parties to the suit to join in "an urgent request to Congress to extend the statute of limitations for a reasonable period" to avoid chaotic conditions at the year's end. (Indian News Notes, Vol. 6, No. 37, Nov. 19, 1982).

## NATIONAL VIETNAM VETERANS POW-WOW TO HONOR INDIAN VETERANS

Recently, the people of the United States finally recognized the Vietnam Vet and allowed a memorial to be build in their honor. It was almost getting to the point where Vietnam Vets were apologetic about admitting their status as Vietnam Veterans. You often hear of stories where Vietnam Vets have taken drastic action to call attention to their plight. Films have come out and told their sad story.

Indian people have always honored their veterans regardless of what war they fought in. Veterans hold an important place and station in Indian tradition. There are special dances for veterans and special songs for them in honor of their bravery and sacrifice. Even the female veteran is given a special place.

On December 9th through the 11th in Shawnee, Oklahoma a National Conference and Pow-Wow will have been held in honor of the Indian Vietnam Veteran. \*

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INTER-TRIBAL POW-WOW AT WINNEBAGO, DECEMBER 25 & 26.

The Tim Saunsoci Memorial Pow-Wow will be held in Winnebago, Nebraska. The Pow-Wow will last from 2 p.m. to 7 p.m. on both days. Wallace Coffey and Valentine Parker, Jr. will be the Announcers. Rick Thomas will be the Head Man Dancer; Mary Ann Snowball the Head Lady Dancer and the Host Singers will be the Bear Singers from Tama, Iowa. There will be a Singing Contest and Dancing Contest with prize money.



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\* CALENDAR OF EVENTS \*  
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|----------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| December 10                            | AICO Board of Directors Meeting, 613 South 16th Street, Conference Room from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Public invited.                                                            |
| December 11                            | National Vietnam Veterans Pow-Wow, Expo Center, Shawnee, Oklahoma. Beginning at 2:00 p.m., Saturday, December 11th. For more information call Clyde Tyndall at (402) 344-0111. |
| December 25-26                         | Tim Saunsoci Memorial Intertribal Pow-Wow at Winnebago, Nebraska. From 2:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. Prize money to be given.                                                         |
| Monday & Friday<br>(Month of December) | A.A. Meetings at the Four Winds Alcoholism Program, 3483 Larimore Avenue, Suite #2. Meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. For more information call Marian Warman at 453-6377.           |