Honga: the leader, v. 05, no. 04

American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Indian Community,

Spring is just around the corner—and the communities in Indian country, reservation and urban, are making plans for their spring social activities. We have scheduled these activities in our "Special Events" section of the HONGA. If you are planning any activity this spring, please send the information to us for entry in our "Special Events" section.

In late May the Indian Center will sponsor the "Standing Bear" day memorial pow-wow celebration at Standing Bear Lake here in Omaha. We will provide complete information on this event in our May edition of the HONGA. Please plan to attend and support your Indian Center.

We have been very busy meeting with different funding agencies (including Bell Telephone and Union Pacific) for the purchase of the facilities we now occupy (this is really looking up). Our Buffalo Printing Company is now in full operation. John Alexander, an Omaha, is the shop manager/instructor. Curtis Alexander and Ted Hatten are helping out with the printing jobs. In time John will have six trainees under him.

Following the personnel policies and procedures, I have terminated an employee for chronic absenteeism and incompetence in job performance. This position is being advertised in this edition of the HONGA and only qualified, sincere applicants are being sought (see job announcement). We are moving full steam ahead in economic development and require a team that will dedicate itself to reaching our goals. We have no time for anything which might impede our progress as we move forward. I want to say that we have a sophisticated board of directors and a qualified staff that have the ability to carry out our economic development plans. We will, of course, need strong support from the Indian community to help us in this tremendous undertaking. Reservations and urban centers left and right are losing federal funding and we cannot afford to make mistakes. We must move ahead.

Wayne Lyndall

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LINCOLN INDIAN CENTER LOSES DIRECTOR

Alice Roach has resigned as executive director of the Lincoln Indian Center effective March 1. She said, "I will still act as an advocate for native Americans and will continue to serve on different volunteer organizations when called upon."

Felix White, Jr., a Winnebago, has been appointed interim-director while a search is made for a permanent director. White formerly served as executive director of the Nebraska Indian Commission. He has been working with the Nebraska State Welfare Department.

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TRIBAL AIDE: 'SECRET DEAL ENDS INDIANS' LEGAL FUNDS

Des Moines (UPI) - Sen. Charles Grassley, R-Iowa, and Interior Secretary James Watt made a "secret deal" to cut off federal money used by the Omaha Indian tribe in Nebraska in its court fight for Iowa land, a spokesman for the tribe has charged.

Attorney Michael Gross, the tribe's general counsel, said the loss of federal money will halt the tribe's court battle for 8,000 acres of bottomland on the Iowa side of the Missouri River. The tribe already has won a claim to 3,000 acres near the reservation.  

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TRIBAL AIDE...

The Omahas claim the land was part of a reservation they kept in 1854. The tribe says a channel change by the Missouri River put some of the property on the Iowa side where they said white squatters took over.

Iowa landowners threatened by the Indians appealed to Grassley, who asked Watt to withdraw Interior Department money for use by the Indians. Grassley delayed the department's 1982 appropriation over the matter.

Grassley aide Beverly Hubble said there were no secret deals in the matter. She said Watt has always agreed with Grassley's position that federal money should not be used for the Indians' legal battles. Hubble said Grassley has no objection to the Indians airing their dispute in court, merely the federal financing.

Gross said the tribe has received more than $100,000 in federal funds for legal fees, but said the money is now exhausted. William Veeder, a Washington lawyer working on the Omahas' case the last six years, said he will continue to do so whether paid or not.

REPORT ON INDIAN RESERVATION POPULATION AVAILABLE

The Bureau of Indian Affairs has published an updated report on American Indian reservations populations. The booklet includes estimates on unemployment.

Dated December, 1981, the report shows a population of 734,895 living on or near Indian reservations, including former reservations in Oklahoma. It also includes 64,047 Eskimos, Aleuts and Indians in Alaska.

The reservation population, which constitutes the BIA's service population, is 52 percent of the 1.4 million total Indian population counted in the 1980 census.

Unemployment on the reservations is reported to be 11 percent of the labor force.

The information in the report is presented by states, BIA area offices, agencies and individual reservations.

The data was compiled from information provided by BIA field offices.

The BIA's last report on reservation populations, in 1979, showed a total of 681,213 with a 27 percent unemployment rate.

BIA ANNOUNCES HEARINGS ON PROPOSED CLOSINGS OF BOARDING SCHOOLS

The Bureau of Indian Affairs has announced a schedule of nine hearings throughout Indian country on its proposed plans to phase out all but three of its off-reservation boarding schools. The hearings will begin March 30 in Anchorage, Alaska and Albuquerque, New Mexico. Other hearings will be in April 1 at Sitka, Alaska and Phoenix, Arizona; April 6, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; April 13, Minneapolis, Minnesota and Portland, Oregon; and April 15, Billings, Montana and Aberdeen, South Dakota. The Federal Register notice announcing the hearings notes that the Wahpeton Indian School, North Dakota; Concho in Oklahoma; Southwestern Indian Polytechnic Institute (SIPI) in Albuquerque, New Mexico and 37 village day schools in Alaska are not proposed for funding in the fiscal year 1983 budget request. The rest of the phase-out plan announced by the BIA calls for the closing of Inter-mountain Indian School, Brigham City, Utah and Mt. Edgecumbe, Sitka, Alaska at the end of the 1982-83 school year; Sequoyah at Tahlequah, Oklahoma and Flandreau in South Dakota at the end of the 1983-84 school year; and Phoenix Indian School in continued on page 3

MORE GOVERNMENT FUNDS SPENT ON NON-INDIANS PER CAPITA, UDALL SAYS

Congressman Morris Udall, according to a report in the Papago Indian Tribal newspaper, has compiled data showing that the average per capita government expenditure for all citizens of the United States in 1980 was $3,687.61. This includes federal, state and local governments. The average per capita expenditure for Indians in the same period from federal, state, local and tribal governments was $2,947.82 according to Udall's computations. The Congressman compiled the information in response to critics who "charge", with aggrieved astonishment that we are spending some outlandish amount of taxpayers' dollars for every Indian...The Indian people, whom all people generally concede are the most impoverished in this country, have been receiving 20 percent less in government services than the national population.
Arizona at the end of the 1984-85 school year. Present plans include operating at least three off-reservation boarding schools until such time it is determined that adequate alternatives are available to meet the needs of students at the schools. The three remaining schools would be Chemawa at Salem, Oregon; Riverside, Anadarko, Oklahoma and Sherman at Riverside, California. For additional information about the hearings contact a local BIA office.

CONCERN EXPRESSED OVER TITLE IV IN OMAHA

At a recent meeting of the Indian Parent Committee of the Title IV "Indian Education Program" concern was expressed on how Title IV was meeting its responsibilities in relation to Indian students within the Omaha Public School system. The meeting pointed out that there was a lack of communication between the Administration and the Indian Parent Committee and that they felt that they were not receiving enough information or having enough input into the Title IV program.

Title IV is a federally funded program designed to help Indian students on the Elementary and Secondary level who are attending a public school. Since parents have children in the school system, they should have a voice in Title IV as to its operational procedures, guidelines and policies. The Indian Parent Committee felt that the Omaha Public School was not providing them with all of the information it needs.

WEATHERIZATION PROGRAM

What is it? The Weatherization Program is an energy conservation service for low-income residents of Washington, Douglas, Sarpy and Dodge Counties. There is no cost for participants.

What can be done? Work that can be done includes attic insulation, weather-stripping doors and windows, caulking and refacing windows, installing storm windows, installing door looks, and patching minor foundation cracks.

Who qualifies? Low-income homeowners and renters are eligible for Weatherization, renters need a statement from their landlord stating that the rent will not be raised because of the service.

Priority is given to elderly and handicapped applicants; homeowners have priority over renters.

Income guidelines depend on the number of people in the household.

How to get it. Contact any Greater Omaha Community Action (GODA) Center. A staff member will take your application and determine if you qualify.

If you are eligible, your home will be placed on the list of homes to be Weatherized and you will be contacted in your turn.

GODA North ............. 2420 Grant St. 341-0650
GODA South ............. 5211 S. 31st St. 734-4630
GODA Sarpy ............. 1908 Hanoeck, Bellevue, Ne. 291-8000
GODA Central ............ 1805 Harney St. 341-8060

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

March 13 - April 3  An exhibition of contemporary art - THE ARTS IN NEBRASKA NATIVE AMERICAN CULTURE, Bellevue College Humanities Center Gallery, Bellevue College, Bellevue, Nebraska. (see Special Events)

April 3  Gourd Dance and War Dance at the Sioux City Indian Center at 2:00 p.m. in honor of the marriage of Mike and Charmaine McCauley. (see Special Events)

April 4 - April 11  FIRST ANNUAL NEBRASKA NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENT CONGRESS STATE CONFERENCE. (see Special Events)

April 3 - April 4  YELLOW THUNDER FOUR SEASON'S CELEBRATION (see Special Events)

April 4  AICO Softball Team Meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the American Indian Center. Parents are encouraged to come with your children. Six teams will be entered in the various city leagues. Contact Tom Harlan for more information at 344-0111.

April 6  Leonard Crow Dog (Medicine Man) to speak at the American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc. Conference Room at 7:00 p.m. Public Invited. (see Special Events)

April 10  Title IV Indian Parent Committee Meeting at South Annex Bldg. 3819 Jones St. Beginning at 7:30 p.m.

April 9  Easter Egg Hunt for the children (4-14) at Hanscom Park from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Lots of games and refreshments.
RICHARD POAFPYBITTY

Traditional Dance
May 29 & 30, 1982 - 2:00 p.m.
Comanche Tribe Complex
4 Miles North of Lawton, Oklahoma
Total Prize Money - $6200.00

(Memorial Dance for the late Richard Tyndall and Will Poafpybitty)

29th OF MAY - TRADITIONAL DANCE ONLY

HOST DRUMS - OMAHA SINGERS, Macy, Nebraska
M.G.M. SINGERS, Apache, Oklahoma
$25.00 DAY MONEY FOR DRUMS
FEAST - 5:00 p.m., 29th of MAY
ALL DANCE - NO GIVE-AWAY

GRAND ENTRY - 6:00 p.m. MAY 30th

TRADITIONAL DANCE CONTEST
1st Place $1000 - $500 - $400
Southern Straight $400 - $300 - $200
Northern Feather $400 - $300 - $200
Southern Feather $400 - $300 - $200
Shawl Dance $200 - $100 - $100
Buckskin & Cloth $200 - $100 - $75
Junior Feather $100 - $75 - $50
Junior Shawl $100 - $75 - $50

30th MAY - SPECIAL DANCES - (VICTORY, SCALP, TU-WHEE, GOARD, CONTESTS)

PAUL PACHECO, Albuquerque, N.M. - Contest Coordinator
HAMMOND MOTA, Lawton, Oklahoma - M.C.

For Further Information Call -
WILLIAM POAFPYBITTY
405-588-3449 - Apache, Oklahoma
**SPECIAL EVENTS**

**MIKE & CHARMAINE McCauley WEDDING DANCE**

A Gourd Dance and War Dance will be held on April 3rd at 2:00 p.m. at the Sioux City Indian Center, honoring the marriage of Mike & Charmaine McCauley.

Gourd Dance Staff:
- Head Girl: Lorn Gilpin
- Head Boy: Tim White Eyes
- Head Lady: Judy Free McCauley
- Head Man: Donald Porter

War Dance Staff:
- Head Lady: Vella Hoover
- Head Man: Gary Rush
- Head Singer: Rudy Clark
- M.C.: Wallace Coffey
- In-Charge: Rufus White

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**FIRST ANNUAL NEBRASKA NATIVE AMERICAN STUDENT CONGRESS STATE CONFERENCE**

April 4 to April 11, 1982.

Wednesday: Assertiveness Training Workshop
- An evening with Billy Mills

Thursday: Speakers Symposium featuring
- Ben Deifel, Vernon Ashley, Dr. Gerald Gipp, Harold Shunk, Lloyd One Star, Ron Volesky.

Friday: Elders Forum, NVASC All-Indian Basketball Tournament, Mini-Concert and Dance with "I.C."

Saturday-Sunday:
- Pow-Wow at the UNL Coliseum, Beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Head Staff:
- Southern Plains Singers... Drum
- Wallace Coffey............ M.C.
- Terry Larvie............. Head Man
- Serene Hedin............ Head Woman

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**WAHO NTHI GE's 3rd ANNUAL "SPRING DANCE"**

Gourd Dance and War Dance beginning at 2 p.m. Saturday, at Fort Calhoun J.C.'s Bldg., Ft. Calhoun, Nebraska, April 17.

Gourd Dance:
- Head Man Dancer............. Tim Woodhull
- Head Lady Dancer........... Victoria Lovejoy
- Little Boy Dancer........... David Heath, Jr.
- Little Girl Dancer.......... Danielle Canby
- Host Dancers................. Tia-Piah Society

War Dance:
- Head Man Dancer............. Joe Hallowell
- Head Singer................. Andy Thundercloud
- Master of Ceremonies......... Joe Kemp

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**ALCOHOLISM CONFERENCE IN MACY, NE. APR. 28**

One day workshop on alcoholism and drug abuse among native American youth and women, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Featured speakers will be Nate Parker from the Nebraska Division on Alcoholism and Marvin Buzzard, Nebraska Indian Commissioner. Public invited, there will be no fee.

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**FOUR SEASON'S CELEBRATION**

Yellow Thunder Camp celebrates four complete seasons at Lake Buddy Lamont. Come and celebrate the only liberated land area in the U.S.A. This is in honor of the Great Mystery and our ancestors in our Sacred Black Hills.

Owl Dance...........April 3rd
- Ceremonies............. April 4th

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**COMING EVENTS**

---50th Wedding Anniversary of Lucy and Ralph Preston, May 8. War Dance and Hand Game. Site to be announced.

---4th Annual Standing Bear Day Celebration, sponsored by the American Indian Center of Omaha, Inc.