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February 3, 1992

Volume 2 Issue 1

NOTICE OF QUARTERLY GENERAL COUNCIL MEETING

1:00 p.m. - Sunday, Feb.9, 1992
IWA Hall
1523 NE Vine St., Roseburg, Ore.

POTLUCK - SALMON WILL BE SERVED - BRING YOUR OWN TABLE SERVICE

9:00 a.m. - Board of Directors Meeting

Most of you in Oregon have probably been reading in the newspapers about the attempts of the Siletz Tribe to open a casino on I-5 near Donald, Oregon. This would have a negative impact on the Cow Creek gaming market. As you know, the Siletz Reservation is located within their historic area which is in the Siletz-Newport area. To move away from their own reservation, buy property and have it put in reservation status for gaming purposes would be outside the intent of the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. They have hired expensive consultants with ties to the Department of the Interior Bureau of Indian Affairs as their lobbyists and have met with Interior Secretary Manuel Lujan in their efforts to have their actions approved. They have also met with Governor Roberts' representatives, although it seems that they do not have a firm plan of operation in place. There are nine tribes in the State of Oregon, and if we all remain on our reservations all nine tribes can develop good gaming ventures. On December 18, 1991 Secretary Lujan denied the request of the Santee Sioux Tribe to open off-reservation gaming because it would have a detrimental effect on other tribes. Our Board of Directors have made every effort to protect the rights of our people and will continue to do so. We have met with the team representing the State of Oregon with firm plans in place to negotiate the tribal/state gaming compact. Both the state people and Chairman of the National Indian Gaming Commission have

complimented the tribe in the well prepared material we have presented for consideration. We are continuing our efforts to protect our market, which is the I-5 corridor. This will require a concentrated work effort in the coming months. Our chairman has met with various Bureau officials, all three members of the National Indian Gaming Commission, Congressional members, Senate Select and House Interior people to present our situation. We will keep you posted on this through the news letters and a report will be given at the General Council Meeting.

Originally, our Board of Directors and our economic development corporation, UIDC, had considered only Bingo, pull tabs and video. However, with a full casino being considered as competition, both boards are re-thinking our position on a full casino operation. Your views on this matter are welcomed and will be given full attention by our boards.

GENERAL COUNCIL INFORMATION

1) With the applications approved, there are presently 812 enrolled tribal members.

2) The introduction of the Cow Creek Drum will take place at the February General Council Meeting. The dedication ceremonies will take place at the annual traditional PowWow at the South Umpqua Falls.

3) The PowWow Committee, (Jack Ansures, Tom Rondeau, Buster Rondeau and Dorothy Yeust), will discuss plans for the 1992 PowWow. Tribal input will be welcomed.

PUBLIC AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS
Chairman Shaffer addressed the Canyonville Chamber of Commerce, the Myrtle Creek Chamber of Commerce, and the Roseburg Chamber of Commerce regarding the Cow Creek Gaming operation. All of the meetings were well attended and supportive of our economic development venture which they all view as part of the solution to the loss of jobs in the timber industry.

Notice from Umpqua National Forest

The BIA is recruiting young Indian adults for a six week, all expense paid training session in the field of water resources during the Spring of 1992. 15 applicants will be chosen (as of now they have 1 applicant) for training as water resources technicians. Applicants need: HS Diploma or GED; Federal Tribe membership; basic math, English and computers; 1 pg. statement of reason and education career goals; SF 171 (items 2-9, 19, 24-28, and 36-39). Those who complete will receive voucher 1 yr FT-Temp. employment in their tribal government. DEADLINE: February 28, 1992. CONTACT: Eric Wilson: Chief, Branch of Water Resources: BIA: Division of Land and Water; MS 4559 MIB, Code 210: 1849 C Street, NW: Washington DC 20240. Phone (202) 208-6041 FTS 8-268-6041.

HOUSING IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

The Tribal Office will be conducting a Housing Inventory Survey to be completed by May of 1993. This survey is extremely important in determining the yearly funding level of our tribe. The more houses recorded in our survey, the greater possibility that our funding level will increase. Your participation will be greatly appreciated.

DRUG AND ALCOHOL PROGRAM
OUTDOOR PREVENTION -RECREATION
THERAPY

Applications to attend this years Mt. Hood snow outing are now being accepted. The dates are March 22nd and 23rd, 1992. Those attending must be between the ages of 14 and 18. The first day will be workshops promoting self esteem, problem solving and decision making skills, identification and sharing of feelings and general drug and alcohol information. The second day will be spent skiing Mt. Hood. For those who have never skied before, lessons will be provided. After the selection is made of those going on the trip, more information will be provided. This event will be at no charge and one you will always remember. Please call the office or write in your request to take part in this years event.

Cow Creek Tribal Office
2400 Stewart Parkway
Suite 300
Roseburg, OR 97470
672-9405

CONTRACT MENTAL HEALTH
COUNSELING

The Drug and Alcohol Program

is providing contract mental health counseling for Tribal youth and adolescents. The objectives of the program are to provide counseling in the areas of:

Sexual abuse
Physical abuse
Divorce & separation trauma
Depression
Suicide
Death of significant other
Drug, alcohol and mental health issues

For more information contact the Cow Creek Tribal Office at 672-9405.

TRIBAL HEALTH PROGRAM

The Dental Hygienist from Chemawa will be here at the Health Office February 26, 27 and 28 to do check-ups on anyone and will put sealants in children and adults ages 5 to 20 years. Appointments need to be made by calling Donna Hardesty at 672-8533 or 1-800-348-2469. This is an excellent opportunity for everyone to get a check-up.

My name is Peggy Meharry, and I am the new Registered Nurse for the Tribal Health Office. I began work January 6, 1992 and have been meeting many of the tribal members, along with scheduling home visits.

I have ordered thousands of brochures for our members that give information on such topics as breast feeding to cancer. All these brochures have been donated to our office from the American Cancer Society, Oregon Health Department and the American Heart Association. If there is a topic of interest for

you, please let me know, as I would be happy to make available to you information on that subject.

Mercy Hospital has made available to me access to their medical library, which is a real asset for us in obtaining information on any medical interest or concern.

On Wednesday, February 19, 1992, we are having a 3 hour seminar sponsored by the Battered Person's Advocacy. It will be held in the main conference room from 1-4p.m. It is open to anyone who would like to attend. If you wish to join us in this seminar, please call me at 672-8533. This three hour seminar is intense and powerful. It will be a valuable learning experience for everyone.

We are encouraging everyone who is interested in weight loss, lowering cholesterol levels, and improving their cardio-vascular system to utilize the exercise equipment at our Tribal Health Office. Our office is open for you to exercise Monday through Friday from 8 to 4p.m.

We now have our Reflotran machine set up at the Tribal Office and will do a cholesterol screening every Monday from 11 to 4p.m. I encourage everyone to get their cholesterol level taken as the testing takes just a few minutes and is a free service for you.

If you would like a home visit and I have not contacted you yet, please give me a call, and we will set up an appointment at your

convenience.

OPEN HOUSE

There will be an open house at the Tribal Health Program, 2245 Stewart Parkway, on February 14 from 11 to 3. Refreshments will be served. Peggy Meharry, our Field Nurse, will be doing cholesterol screening, glucose monitoring and blood pressure checks for all Tribal members and their families. Linda and June will also be available for any questions you may have concerning the Contract Health Program.

NEW TRIBAL EMPLOYEES

Housing Coordinator

Tribal member Sara Botts has been hired as the Tribe's Housing Improvement Coordinator. Sara's background as a licensed real estate sales associate has enabled her to make a smooth transition into this program. Sara is also an army vet who says her military time has taught her how to successfully deal with all types of people.

Receptionist

Carol Ferguson was hired as receptionist for the Administrative Offices January 6, 1992. Before working for the Tribe Carol has worked as a receptionist at the YMCA and owned her own small business. She also worked for Douglas County for five years. Carol says her strong points are her computer experience and strong customer relations background.

REMINDERS

(1) In the December 16, 1991 news letter, voter registration information was provided. Registration blanks were mailed to all those who were eligible but not registered to vote. To date, 26 persons have responded. Registration to vote in the 1992 election will close on May 15, 1992.

(2) Continue to keep your address current. Whenever there is a change of address, the office needs to be advised so you will continue to receive important tribal correspondence.

(3) It is important that all of those eligible to enroll request an enrollment application so that it may be processed. You may call the Tribal Office at (503) 672-9405 to obtain an enrollment form.

(4) The Tribal Health and Social Services Department has made the move to 2245 Stewart Parkway. Their new phone numbers are (503) 672-8533 and 1-800-348-2649. The Tribal Office has a new toll free number as well. It is 1-800-835-8229.

Material submitted by the News Committee:

Naomi Gould
Sherri Shaffer
Sue Shaffer
Carla Swanson

Of interest to all Indian people was the passing in the first session of the 102nd Congress P.L. 102-188 (S.J. Res 217) titled the "Year of the American Indian". It authorized the President to proclaim 1992 as the "Year of the American Indian", in recognition of the fact that American Indians are the original inhabitants of what is now the United States. "Federal, state and local governments, interested groups and organizations, and the people of the United States are called upon to observe each month with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities".

The following article was included "Friends Committee on National Legislation Washington Newsletter". The "Friends" are a Quaker group that watchdogs national Indian legislation. This article focuses on treaty rights.

HOLDING UP OUR END OF THE PACT

Our country sets a high value on negotiating and honoring international treaties. However, the U.S. has a disturbing track record when it comes to treaties made between the federal government and Indian tribes. Tribes have had to take claims to the courts and to Congress because the federal government has unilaterally violated and abrogated treaties. Shouldn't these U.S. treaties be honored, both in letter and intent? What can be done to ensure that they will?

In its early history the United States signed numerous treaties with the indigenous populations of this country, in which Indian tribes granted *some* rights to the U.S. A treaty is defined as an agreement between two *sovereign* nations, and is recognized by international law as binding and legal. In addition, the U.S. has a trust responsibility that grows out of some of the early treaties to uphold its "legal and moral duty to assist Indians in the protection of their property and rights."

The primary motivation of the U.S. in treaty-making was a desire for land, peace, and trade in order that the new nation might grow and prosper. As the country grew in population and strength, federal policy shifted. After 1871, the U.S. no longer recognized the sovereignty of Indian nations and ceased to negotiate treaties, although for a period it did negotiate *agreements* which are as binding as treaties.

Each branch of the government is responsible for carrying out the provisions of treaties and agreements, and is therefore responsible

when they are violated or abrogated. There are currently many outstanding claims before Congress and the courts as a result of treaty abrogations. These include disputes over land and land use, fishing and hunting rights, water rights, and questions of jurisdiction. A report by the Institute for the Development of Indian Law found that treaties are abrogated in many ways: Congress does not always appropriate sufficient funds to carry out treaty provisions; various federal policies, such as the "termination policy," have allowed Congress and federal agencies to completely disregard treaty provisions; and Congress has assumed in some cases that all rights were signed away to the U.S.

Those who oppose honoring treaty provisions argue that treaties are antiquated, unconstitutional, and invalid. They also argue that treaties grant Indians special rights that the average citizen does not have. The relationship between the U.S. and the Indian nations is unique but *is not* groundless. The U.S. Constitution states that "*all* treaties made, or which shall be made, under the authority of the United States, shall be the supreme law of the land." Age has not invalidated treaties any more than age has invalidated the Constitution. The U.S. Supreme Court has generally upheld the validity of Indian treaties and has often decided ambiguities in favor of the Indian tribes, by applying the maxim of international law that a "treaty should be interpreted as the parties understood it, at the time it was negotiated and signed." The courts have also recognized that there are vast differences, in many cases, between what was said and what was actually written down.

In exchange for peaceful relations with the U.S. government, Indian nations signed treaties, giving up vast tracts of land which were integral to their way of life. We cannot continue to violate treaties and deny Indian tribes the rights which they protect.