May 19, 1994

Volume 4 Issue 5

NOTES FROM THE CHAIRMAN...

GAMING CENTER UPDATE

The preview of the Cow Creek Indian Gaming Center by tribal families on April 23rd was attended by approximately 250 people. Some out of state families were also able to attend and appreciation is extended to them for making the special effort to view the tribal business facility. The invocation was given by tribal elder Emily Rose Krantz, and a very nice buffet was served to all. As with any business operation of that size, there are still some minor adjustments to be made. When all hiring is completed there will be around 150 people employed. All qualified tribal members who applied, though few, were hired. Tribal members wishing employment should get their work applications submitted. There will be a certain amount of turnover in the work force, therefore, it is important that you contact Judy Ingenito at (503) 839-1111 and leave a completed application with her.

Part of the south parking lot has now been paved and work continues on the R.V. park, with an anticipated pletion date of early June. It will be for 38 spaces and full service, i.e. water, sewer, and electrical hook-ups. Community support for the venture has been strong and very positive, with local businesses beginning to realize the impact the gaming center will have on their operations.

Comments regarding tastefulness and beauty of the facility have been overwhelming. BIA Area Director, Stanley Speaks, who is usually non-committal, was most enthusiastic about it. Special comments were made on the impressiveness of the South Umpqua Falls replica in the entrance.

SPECIAL MEETING NOTICE

NOMINATIONS UPDATE

At the May 15, 1994 General Council Meeting, nominations for three positions on the Board of Directors were made. The Chairman accepted nominations, noting that a legal opinion as to the validity of the nominations would be required due to a lack of a quorum of the General Council. After receiving legal advice about this matter, the Chairman and the Board, pursuant to Article VI, Section 2 of the Tribal Constitution, are calling a Special Meeting of the Board and General Council on Saturday, June 18, 1994, for the purpose of accepting nominations for the 3 positions on the Board of Directors. The meeting will be held at the Tribal Office at 10:00 a.m. The tribal office is located at 2400 Stewart Parkway, Suite #300, Roseburg, Oregon.

GAMING UPDATE

Of particular interest to the Tribe continues to be what is occurring on the national level with Indian gaming is . We can be thankful that the Cow Creeks went through all the necessary legal steps to build a solid foundation for our business. Presently, the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs is preparing legislation to amend and clarify certain issues in the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act. At this time, the Cow Creeks remain the only Indian gaming tribe in Oregon, although almost all of the tribes are considering it. Probably the next tribe to be in operation will be the Umatillas, who expect to open their facility this fall.

TRIBAL HEALTH INSURANCE

For the past two months tribal staff have been working on a Health Insurance Plan for the entire tribe.

Several meetings have been held finalizing a plan that will be offered to the staff, <u>ALL</u> tribal members, and their families.

Cow Creek is joining several other tribes in the nation on developing a self-funding insurance plan covering health and death benefits. The proposed low-cost insurance will be made available to <u>ALL</u> tribal members and their spouses, regardless of where they live.

We hope to offer the insurance at less than half of what people are paying now, however, a more accurate premium will be developed as the plan becomes final.

Information is currently being gathered and a flyer will soon be sent to tribal families with more details on the plan.

REGISTER YOUR BUSINESS

Tribal members owning businesses who wish to bid on various jobs that may become available by the tribe should contact the Tribal Office and register their name and type of business. This list will be maintained by the Tribal Board of Directors Assistant, Carol McKinney. When jobs requiring bids come available, and your name appears on this list for that particular type of work, you will be notified and given the opportunity to bid. Some jobs that may be available are: brush clearing, excavation and site work, maintenance, and various construction. To have your business registered please contact Carol McKinney at 1-800-929-82. or (503) 672-9405.

LOW INCOME HOME ENERGY ASSISTANCE (LIHEAP)

The Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) is still available to tribal members in the service area. The program is designed to assist eligible applicants with energy costs (oil, propane, electric, wood and gas).

There are two parts to the program: Heating Assistance and Crisis Assistance. Each of these are a one time payment.

For more information, please call Rhonda Malone at 1-800-929-8229 or 672-9405.

NORTHWEST YOUTH CORP

The Northwest Youth Corp (NYC) is now accepting applications for summer employment. This is a program for youth ages 16-19. NYC offers teenagers the opportunity to spend part of their summer as a member of a hard working team: making friends, surmounting challenges, widening horizons, discovering the meaning of responsibility and making \$'s. NYC's education program examines the natural environment, investigates the objectives of each work project, and teaches participants basic job skills. For more information call Rhonda at 1-800-929-8229.

HOME FIREARMS TRAINING

The Adult Education Program will be offering a Home Firearms Training class taught by N.R.A. certified instructor D.C. "Curley" Jensen Jr.. This class, 4 1/2 hours in length, will consist of a lecture, as well as hands-on instruction. There will be no fee for this class.

DATE:

Tuesday, June 8, 1994

TIME:

6:00 - 10:00 p.m.

PLACE:

Diamond Dan's

1425 S.E. Stephens Street

Roseburg, Oregon

If you are interested in attending this class you may sign up by calling the Tribal Administrative Offices at 672-9405, and leaving your name with the receptionist.

C.P.R. CLASSES

If you are interested in obtaining or updating your CPR card, call the Tribal Office. Please specify whether you prefer an evening or Saturday class.

HOUSING ASSISTANCE

Housing Improvement Program (HIP) applications for the next funding year are currently being accepted. Priority is given to families with the greatest need in relation to income, family size, etc. Even if you believe you might not qualify for the HIP program, other options may be available. If you currently live in the seven (7) county service area, and are interested in applying for Housing Assistance or have any questions, please contact Carol Ferguson, Housing Coordinator at 672-9405 or 1-800-929-8229.

CONTRACT HEALTH

Health related billing questions should be directed to Linda Rondeau or June Horn at the Tribal Health Office. They are authorized to answer any questions you may have regarding billing procedures, payment procedures, etc. regarding the Contract Health Program. Please inform your provider of this when attending an appointment.

REMINDERS

- 1) Please continue to keep your address current. Whenever there is a change of address the Administrative Office needs to be advised, so you will continue to receive important tribal correspondence.
- 2) 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 Administrative Office at 672-9405 or 1-800-929-8229.