



# ***KIUYUM-ID-***

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## **Tribal Health Insurance Plan**

For many years there has been a desire by the Board of Directors and the Tribe to provide health care coverage to every enrolled tribal member. Research on how to provide group insurance to the entire tribe, whether they live in the seven (7) county service area or outside of it, started several years ago. The following is a brief outline of the tribal self-funded insurance plan, the **Nesika Health Group**.

### **ELIGIBILITY**

Insurance plan membership will be limited to individual tribal members, and if they choose, their legal spouses, any children in the household for which the tribal member is legally responsible, and tribal employees. Again, the plan has no service area requirements.

### **THE PLAN**

The **Nesika Health Group** will provide medical, dental, and vision coverage for tribal members and their families who are enrolled and whose premium has been paid. You may select the health care providers of your choice, provided they meet certain requirements within that particular state. You are not limited to a primary care physician as with HMO plans. **(A summary of benefits booklet will be included with the application for enrollment.)** The plan is a basic 80/20 plan with a \$100 deductible per person, or \$300 per family per calendar year.

### **THE COST**

The **Nesika Health Group** will be funded greatly in part by tribal businesses, allowing for such low premiums for you and your family.

The cost to you, as an individual tribal member, will be \$50 per month or \$600 per year. A tribal member who wishes to include a legal spouse and/or any dependent children in the household may enroll in the family plan at a cost of \$60 per month. Therefore, a tribal family will receive coverage for \$60 per month, or \$720 per year, regardless of the number of dependents added to the enrollment. Coverage will begin upon receipt of a completed application including all necessary proof of legal dependents, i.e. copies of marriage certificates, and/or birth certificates, as well as a check for the appropriate premium amount.

Once enrolled in the plan, should a member decide to discontinue coverage, that individual and family would not be eligible to join the plan until the next enrollment period, which will be January 1 of each year.

### **PRE-EXISTING CONDITIONS**

As with most plans, the **Nesika Health Group** does contain a pre-existing condition clause. However, it is not a waiver as with most insurance plans. Any member of the **Nesika Health Group** with a pre-existing condition will receive coverage up to \$2000 for the first year of coverage on any expenses related to their pre-existing condition. After the first year, the pre-existing condition coverage will not be limited, and the individual will receive regular coverage. Certain extensive illnesses may be cause for denial of coverage.

Any tribal members wishing to receive further information, an application for enrollment, benefits package, and/or billing information, may contact Lonna Alford at the Tribal Health Office, 1-800-935-2649. The benefits information packet outlines the details on the medical, dental, and vision benefits coverage.

## Future Jobs Available

### Gaming Center:

The following jobs will be available for the new expansion at the Cow Creek Gaming Center:

- Security Officers
- Data Input Clerk
- Soft Count Cashiers
- Key Clerk
- Change Clerks
- Slot Cashiers
- Slot Technician
- Keno Writers
- Poker Dealer
- Black Jack Dealer
- Roulette
- Craps Dealer
- Table Supervisors for Poker, Blackjack, Roulette, and Craps
- Surveillance Manager
- Food Servers
- Restaurant Cook
- Line Cooks
- Food Cashiers
- Dishwashers

Having a high school diploma or G.E.D. is required.

For more information about these positions please contact the Cow Creek Gaming Center Personnel Department at 503-839-1111.

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### Road Project

Due to BIA roads funding limitations for FY94, the road project as mentioned in previous Newsletters was delayed.

Again, the Bureau of Indian Affairs has committed to funding the construction of a road system which will cross through the tribal reservation (Block Property). A Native American contractor has been selected by the BIA. The contractor has notified the Tribal Office of job openings which will be available once construction begins. They are as follows:

- **Laborer** - General labor type work, such as: rake, shovel and be able to lift 60 - 75 lbs.
- **Operator** - Be able to run equipment, such as: loader, backhoe, roller, etc.
- **Asphalt Laborer** - Be able to rake asphalt.
- **Concrete Labor** - Be able to set grades, FDL wire, finish grade prior to installing concrete, set forms.

For more information, contact Carol McKinney at the Tribal Administrative Office.

## Free Firewood

There is a considerable amount of scrap timber left over from the recent logging activity on the Evergreen property. Tribal members are welcome to take whatever is left, but please plan to do so within the next 2-3 weeks.

## Red Cross Babysitting Class Canceled

The Red Cross Babysitting Class scheduled for May 13, 1995, has been canceled.

## **Tribal Census**

In order to compile the information needed for various government grants and programs the tribe is eligible to receive, we must do a census. An outside agency, or non-tribal, temporary employee will be used to compile the information and maintain the utmost confidentiality. No names will be used.

Information will only be used to document statistics the tribe must be able to verify. Examples of grants that require verifiable data are H.U.D., Community Development, etc. This information is being requested to assist the administration in applying for grants for the social and economic betterment of the tribe.

You should be receiving the 1995 Census Analysis in the mail soon. If you have any questions or concerns regarding the census, please contact Dan Andrade at the Administrative Office.

## **Youth Scholarship Camp**

Southern Oregon State College (S.O.S.C.) and Rogue Community College (R.C.C.) have teamed up to present a 6 day camp at S.O.S.C. Students must be completing grades 5 or 6 in June of 1995. The purpose of this camp is to give Native American students a college type experience and open them up to the possibilities of learning and career choices. The students will interact with other Native American students from throughout Oregon and will also spend time with tribal elders and tribal leaders during classes, lectures, presentations and other mentoring situations. The camp is to take place August 18-24, 1995. For more information or an application form, please contact Roma Jackson at the Tribal Administrative Office. Applications must be received by June 15, 1995.

## **Floral Decorating Class**

There will be a Floral Decorating class on May 4, 1995, from 5:30 - 7:30 p.m. held at the Tribal Administrative Office. The use of silk and dried flowers will be demonstrated in the design of a spring basket project. Every participant will take home a silk flower arrangement. If you are interested in participating, please call 672-9405 or 1-800-929-8229 before April 21 to register.

## **Daycare Assistance**

The Cow Creek Child Care Assistance Program is provided through the Child Care and Development Block Grant and can provide full day care and/or after school care for eligible families. All applicants must live in the seven county service area and be employed, engaged in an on-the-job training program, or enrolled in school. The children must be under the age of 13. For more information regarding this program, please contact Carol Ferguson at the Tribal Administrative Office.

## **General Quarterly Council/Nominations Meeting Reminder**

There will be a General Council and Annual Board of Directors Nominations Meeting held on May 21, 1995, at 1:00 p.m. at the I.W.A. Hall located at 1523 NE Vine St.. Roseburg, Oregon.

## Elders Feature

The following is the first of many future articles featuring some of the elders of the tribe.



**Wallace J. Rondeau, Sr. Approaching His 96th Birthday**

Wallace J. Rondeau, Sr., the oldest elder in the tribe, was born in a mining camp on Coffee Creek located near Tiller, on April 22, 1899.

Wallace went to school in the Rondeau School House, a one room school house located on his grandfathers property in Tiller. When asked about his childhood, Wallace replied "Not a good childhood, I had to do a lot of hard work, I worked for my room and board. His first job was driving cattle. He bought his first automobile when he was 17 years old, a Model T Ford pick-up truck.



Wallace at a the Cow Creek Pow-Wow.

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In 1914 Wallace went to Portland to join the Merchant Marines during World War I. In 1925 he went to work in the hop yards in Independence, Oregon and worked there until 1936. Wallace soon returned to his homeland Douglas County, to his relatives and the woods he knew.

Wallace built his house located in Glendale, Oregon in 1945 (where he still lives today). He remembers having to purchase supplies a little at a time due to the rationing during World War II. Having earned his house through his own labor, he says, is his proudest accomplishment.



Wallace and Wallace Jr. "Buster" at a tribal council meeting in 1984.

Wallace had 6 children, Wallace "Buster" Rondeau, Jr., Richard "Butch" Rondeau, Dorothy Yeust, Jerry Rondeau, Tim Rondeau, and his late son George "Jack" Rondeau, all of whom he is very proud of. Today he has 17 grand children, 23 great grand children and 4 great great grand children. Wallace still enjoys the outdoors and going hunting with his sons.

# Notes From the Chair

## Legislation

In the last Newsletter I advised you of various concerns with the "Contract with America" and how, if implemented, tribes would be effected. These are serious times. On April 6, 1995, the Senate approved a recession package cutting \$16 billion dollars from the FY95 appropriations from various federal programs. This is \$1 billion dollars less than the House version. Two "Contract" items, Unfunded Mandates and Congressional Accountability Legislation, have passed Congress and been signed into law by the President. The House is currently in recess until May 1, 1995, and the Senate recess is scheduled to begin April 14, 1995. Several critical Indian gaming bills are under consideration and being closely watched by the National Indian Gaming Association. One of our tribal gaming commissioner's will be attending their annual meeting.

At the state level, House Joint Resolution 70 has been introduced. Section (8) provides that "The Legislative Assembly by law may authorize riverboat casinos and casinos located aboard other gaming vessels when the vessels operate in the waters of this state". Paragraph 2 reads "The amendment proposed by this resolution shall be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at a special election held throughout this state on the same date as the next regular primary election".

It is apparent that bills at both a state and national level have the potential for intrusion into Indian gaming, so it is doubly important that the Cow Creeks move quickly to get our full operation in place, and that is the decision that the Board of Directors has made.

### A Matter of "Trust"

"The Republicans talk about a "Contract with America" for hundreds of years. It is our treaties with the U.S. Government. We are going to hold America accountable to their contract with us".

By a Tribal elder at the Indian Leadership Forum,  
Washington, D.C., December 15, 1994

Two other bills are of interest to tribes:

**SB1121** is the bill that the Oregon Tribes has had considerable input into. It would increase penalties for violation of cultural resource protections laws.

**SB1133** is a new bill creating a Cultural Resources Task Force with tribal inclusion.

## Dislocated Workers

On the first day of the 104th Congress Senator Mark Hatfield introduced "The Worker Retraining Flexibility Act. of 1995". The intent of this bill is to move more quickly to meet the needs of the dislocated worker.

*Sue Shaffer*