

From: Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission

The Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission and the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission have formed a formal alliance to work on Northwest Indian Fisheries problems.

The Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission is composed of the nineteen tribes in the Boldt case area and the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission is composed of the Yakima Nation, The Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation, The Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Reservation, and the Nez Perce Tribe. The Columbia River Tribes have treaty fishing rights on the Columbia under the Belloni Decision. The

new Fisheries Alliance will work together on funding, management plans, enhancement programs, and general fisheries issues.

Harris Teo, Chairman of the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fisheries Commission and Bill Smith, Exec. Director of the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission released a joint statement today regarding President Carter's newly formed Executive Task Force on Northwest Fishing.

"The Northwest Indian Fisheries Alliance will cooperate fully with the Executive Task Force to explore the alternatives for ensuring a well managed fishery in the Northwest. We're glad to see the

opportunity to express our views to a high level executive committee on a controversy that has existed for over a hundred years. We have been requesting a study of this kind for the past ten years."

"It should be made clear that this does not mean a

re-negotiation of treaty rights or the federal court decisions. The Dept. of Interior has already stated this. We are looking forward to negotiating on other points, however."

"As Tribal Governments, we are most anxious to sit down together with other gov-

ernments to solve our fisheries problems. We are also anxious to work with the State if they can uphold their management responsibilities to allocate the resource."

"As a final point, we feel that this Task Force must preserve its executive integrity without compromising to political interests."

After Hours Emergency Medical Call Schedule

Beginning May 10, 1977, a new policy on emergency medical care will go into effect at the Warm Springs PHS Indian Health Center. This policy applies to after-hours medical treatment only and will not affect the normal daytime schedule at the Health Center. After 5:00 P.M. on Monday through Thursday, emergencies will be seen at the Health Center by Dr. Creelman. After 5:00 P.M. on Friday and all day on Saturday and Sunday, emergencies will be seen at the Mountain View Hospital in Madras by the physician on call. The Warm Springs Tribal Ambulance, with its crew of trained emergency medical technicians, will continue to be available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for emergency care and transportation

EMERGENCY CALL SCHEDULE

Warm Springs PHS Indian Health Center

Time Period	Physician	Location	Telephone
After 5:00 P.M. Monday-Thursday	Dr. Creelman	Warm Springs PHS Indian Health Center	553-1221
After 5:00 P.M. Friday	Physician on Call	Mt. View Hospital Madras	475-3882
Saturday and Sunday	Physician on* Call	Mt. View Hospital Madras	475-3882

Warm Springs Tribal Ambulance: 553-1171, 553-1172, or 553-1161

Imposing Indian Preference

The employment rights of Indians and how Tribes can defend them, were the subjects of a conference held at Kah-Nee-Ta April 19-21 by ACKCO, Inc. and RJ Associates.

ACKCO, or American Indian Professional Services, is an Indian owned and operated Minority Business Firm, and RJ is a consulting group in the field of Indian affairs. Together they assembled the "Manual on Indian Employment Rights" which was presented at the conference.

One of the themes of the manual and of the conference was that Tribal employment departments have the power to ensure that private as well as tribal and governmental employers on the reservation give preference to members of the

local Indian work force.

For Warm Springs participants, information on dealing with private and federal contractors and labor unions was especially useful.

Although a model Tribal Employment Rights Office was recommended, Warm Springs Personnel Director Lloyd Smith feels the mechanism for imposing Indian preference already exists here. The conference was helpful in offering additional insight into recent legislation and providing specific suggestions for exercising the power Tribes have to control the employment practices of all reservation employers.

Local participants in the conference were Lloyd Smith, Sr., Benson Heath and Lizzie Rhoan.

One Tenant Speaks for the Others

Neda Greene displays a distinctive style in her new job as Tenant Manager. She refuses to carry a briefcase or shuffle papers when she goes calling. And her understanding of local customs helps her bring sensitivity to her dealings with the tenants.

She is a far cry from the villainous rent collector or the prying landlord.

Neda's job is to be a liaison between the Housing Department and the nearly 100 HUD and Tribal rental units and the 68 mobile homes. While rent collection and inspection of quarters are part of her job, Neda stresses her advocacy role. She spends the bulk of her time visiting with tenants to determine and assist them with their housing needs,

and is continually striving to make life as comfortable as possible for the tenants.

Her day's activities might range from taking down serial numbers on appliances and filing maintenance requests to approving a housing application or advising a tenant of his monthly responsibilities.

But Neda has been known to fill roles beyond her job description. She describes her-

self as "Dear Abby", a dog catcher, and a safety advocate.

Neda feels she has an advantage in having grown up on the reservation. Her face is familiar and people feel comfortable talking with her. So comfortable in fact, that she often ends up being a marriage counselor or personal adviser.

A HUD tenant herself, Neda finds common ground between her and the people she works with. She opens her door to other tenants and encourages visiting back and forth. "I want to make sure our people are comfortable with us and not afraid of us," she says about herself and the Housing Department.

She hopes that the "communication gap" between tenant and landlord can be bridged. "We're entering a new era," she said optimistically, pointing out that this relationship is becoming less antagonistic.

Neda stresses safety both inside and outside the homes. For instance she is advising her tenants to remove fire hazardous tumbleweeds from beneath trailers before the warm weather sets in.

Playgrounds are a feature Neda promotes enthusiastically, partly for safety reasons. She would like to see play facilities in the Mobile Home Park "so that the smaller children have something to do other than play in the dangerously narrow streets." Even if it has to go to a referendum, she'd like tribal funds to be used to develop such playgrounds.

On the other end of the age spectrum, senior citizens are a primary concern of the new tenant manager and she tries to spend a couple of days a week talking with the older folks about their needs. She laughs about how hard it is to find them at home—"they're on the move!"

Neda is making an attempt to improve the outdoor appearance of the housing. She encourages each family to do their own landscaping, although she admits that the livestock problem must be solved first. This spring Neda is supporting a community clean-up for all West Hills and the Mobile Home Park.

Dog catching is not her favorite pastime but when a dog has become a nuisance Neda feels obligated to do something about it. Spilyay joined her in the historic capture of the legendary "hairless dog," an event that put an end to a longstanding community menace...until a litter of hairless puppies were found the next week!

"Dear Abby" and dog catching duties aside, Neda is still faced with the problem of unpaid rent. She firmly believes that eviction is not a useful solution and tries to avoid court action unless it's absolutely necessary. She would rather help the tenant work out any financial problems that might be contributing to the problem.

Tenants seem to have an ally in Neda Greene, even if the dogs do not.



Ursula Little (right) shows her latest beadwork project to Tenant Manager Neda Greene. Beadwork is Ursula's only income out of which her rent comes. Sandy Rangila Photo