

Indian News Notes

by Vince Lovett

Appointments made to Arts Commission

A Hermiston resident has been appointed and a Portland resident reappointed to the Oregon Arts Commission.

Gov. Vic Atiyeh appointed Doris Bounds, Hermiston, and reappointed Ronna Pope, Portland. Both will serve four-year terms.

Mrs. Bounds, who was a commission member from 1969-77, is chairman of the board and senior vice president, Inland Empire Bank, Hermiston. She will replace Ellen Bartow, Prineville, whose term ends January 17, 1981.

Mrs. Pope has served on the seven-member commission since her appointment January 18, 1977. She is chairman of the commission's long range planning committee.

Commission duties include assisting and strengthening art programs and activities to promote board public benefit and high artistic and scholarly

standards recognizing and giving opportunities to individual Oregon artists; encouraging private and local initiative and financial support for art; and stressing art education.

Mrs. Bounds is a past director of the National Association of Bank Women, past treasurer and executive council member of the Oregon Bankers Association, and past director and treasurer of the Independent Bankers of Oregon. She is an Oregon Arts Foundation director, member of the Oregon Lewis and Clark Trail Committee and the Governor's Listening Post Advisory Board, a Pacific Northwest Indian Center Trustee, President of the Roger J. Bounds Indian Foundation, and a member of the Pendleton Round-Up Association and the Hermiston Development Corp.

Mrs. Pope is chairperson of the collection and exhibition

committee of the Portland Art Museum; a member of the board of Pacific Northwest magazine, a board member of the American Federation of the Arts, New York City, a past director of the Oregon Symphony Board and past member of the Portland Dance Theater board, and a founder and co-chairperson of the Port Gamble Historic Museum Committee.

Mrs. Pope is a member of the Board of Overseers, both of Lewis and Clark College, Portland.

A graduate of Hermiston High School, Mrs. Bounds is a graduate of Stanford University and holds a master of arts degree from Columbia University.

A graduate of Foxcroft School, Middleburg, Va., and an honor graduate of Briarcliff College, Briarcliff Manor, N.Y. Mrs. Pope has also studied at Columbia and Portland State Universities.

WATT VOICES SUPPORT FOR TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY; REAGAN'S STATEMENTS ON INDIANS:

In a press conference December 24, Interior Secretary designate James Watt called the selection of an Assistant Interior Secretary for Indian Affairs a "high priority," and voiced support for tribal sovereignty.

The following day the **Arizona Republic** published an interview with Watt in which he said: "President-elect Reagan, during the campaign, issued a ringing affirmation of our national government's obligation to Indian tribes, the tribe's clear legal right in self-government, and the government-to-government relationship that exists between the United States and the tribes. He is, as he has said, 'opposed to the abrogation of Indian treaties and the termination of the unique relationship between the Federal government and the tribes.' I enthusiastically support this position."

Watt told the **Republic** he will recommend that Reagan "promptly nominate an Assistant Secretary for Indian Affairs, after consultation with tribes."

The **Republic** reported that Watt's statements were in reaction to a letter of opposition to his appointment as Interior secretary that 176 Indians signed on December 17. Watt told the **Arizona Republic** he considers it "vital that an early start be made to create jobs and improve the tribal economies, to remove bureaucratic barriers to Indian's self-determination, and to strengthen the department's accountability to the public, the Congress, and the tribes."

American Indian cultural heritages "are precious to the tribes, and to our nation," he continued. "They must and will be respected. Working together, the Reagan administration and the tribes will set forth an agenda for action that is both practical and far-reaching."

Indian concerns given high priority

The American Indian Task Force of the Small Community and Rural Development Policy (SCRD) has focused its activity on four high priority concerns of American Indians, according to an updated report from Deputy Assistant Secretary Thomas Fredericks. As task force co-chairman, he identified the four concerns as (1) tribal consultation, (2) information systems, (3) Federal assistance management systems (FAMS), and (4) housing.

The Administration established the Indian Task Force last August to improve coordination and delivery of Federal services to American Indians.

In the area of tribal consultation, the task force is

developing two plans. One will outline consultation practices for actions of the task force itself; the other will be an ongoing guideline for all Federal agencies that provide resources to American Indians.

Second, the task force is planning to develop an information system to improve tribal access to data that will help tribes plan, budget, and operate programs more effectively.

The third priority of the task force is implementing FAMS, a system for simplifying disbursing and accounting procedures of Federal funds delivered from a variety of Federal programs to one organization. The Bureau has been a partner of the Office of Management and Budget, the

Department of the Treasury, and the General Accounting Office is developing FAMS. The Bureau will be the management agency for the four tribes and one inter-tribal organization participating in the pilot FAMS program, which is being tested during fiscal year 1981.

Fourth, the task force is initiating actions in the area of Indian housing. It is reviewing the 1976 intergovernmental agreement among Housing and Urban Development, Indian Health Service, and the BIA, as well as exploring the feasibility of interagency effort to survey housing conditions with regard to energy consumption on reservation.

INDIANS JOIN ENVIRONMENTALISTS IN OPPOSING WATT FOR INTERIOR JOB:

American Indian leaders expressed opposition to the expected nomination of James C. Watt as Secretary of Interior. A telegram signed by 176 Indians, some of whom were reportedly meeting December 17 in San Diego, California, to plan further actions, was sent to President-elect Reagan. The telegram endorsed a letter sent to Reagan by Erica Clary, director of an Indian-owned consulting firm, in which she said Mr. Watt had taken several "anti-Indian actions" that raised doubt about his objectivity in serving as trustee of Indian interests as Secretary of the Interior.

One of those signing the telegram was delvin Lovato, director of the All Indian Pueblo Council and an out-spoken, pre-election Reagan supporter. Lovato told reporter Patricia Koza, "We want the President-elect to be aware of our concerns."

Environmentalists groups have also expressed opposition to Watt, the 42-year-old president of the Mountain States Legal Foundation, which is supported by oil and business interests and has filed scores of lawsuits supporting business over environment. Such groups as the Friends of the Earth, the Sierra Club and the Wilderness Society have announced their intention to fight the appointment of Watt.

Watt's organization filed an amicus curiae brief against the Jicarilla Apache tribe's right to impose a severance tax on oil and gas taken from reservation lands. In brief, Watt and his associates argue for a very limited view of tribal sovereignty. They assert that the concept of representative government precludes unfettered tribal jurisdiction over non-members of the tribe. The brief argues that statements about Indian tribes "impute a degree of sovereignty to Indian tribes which, if carried to their logical extreme, will effectively create separate enclaves within this country that exercise all but a few of the attributes of statehood, but without the traditional safeguards to protect individuals from governmental excesses."

No reduction of excise tax

This year Pacific Northwest Bell customers won't find the usual one percent reduction of the federal excise tax on telephone service on their bills. President Carter has signed

legislation to keep the tax at the 1980 level-two-percent-through 1981.

From the mid-1950's until 1972, the excise tax was 10 percent on most local service

and long distance calls. From 1973 through 1980 the rate was reduced one percentage point each year. The original legislation, passed in 1970, called for the entire tax to be repealed by January 1, 1982.

TOE NESS

"When I look at this congregation, I ask myself, where are the poor?" The preacher said, but when I look at the collection plate I say, "Where are the rich!" YIKES

SS SS SS SS

There was this office secretary who said to her boss, "Are you sure your wife knows that I'm coming home with you for dinner tonight?" "I'll say she does, this morning I argued with her for about an hour about it." YIKES

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CONFUCIUS SAY: "Real love when man want more to have one girl on mind than another lap!"

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There was this old mountaineer and his son sitting lazily in front of the fire, not moving a hair. After a long silence, the father said, "Son, step outside and see if it's still raining." "Shucks, paw," replied the son, "Why don't we just call in the dog and see if he's wet?" YIKES

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There was this young engineer who was proudly showing off his first big project, a \$20 million dam. One of the officials checked the blue prints, stared in amazement, and then exclaimed, "Heavens . . . the water it's supposed to be on the other side!" YIKES

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Cocoa Meeting

The next Central Oregon Council on Aging Board of directors meeting will be held at 1:30 p.m. in the Redmond Extension Office located at 922 W. Highland, on January 15, 1981.

As always, the public is invited.

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