

## NCAI 57th Annual Session at St. Paul

The National Congress of American Indians, the country's oldest and largest organization of tribal nations, will host one of its largest gatherings of tribal leaders to date. The 57th Annual Session will take place at the Touchstone Energy Place at RiverCentre in St. Paul, Minnesota, November 12-17, 2000. This is the second Annual Session in the organization's history to be held in the Minneapolis area, the last one was held in 1951.

"The timing of this meeting will be perfect for tribal leaders to discuss the results of the November elections and make plans for engaging the new Administration and Congress," said Susan Masten, President of NCAI and Chair of the Yurok Tribe. "Indian Nations are heavily affected by federal policies, so we want to be sure that during the transition the new elected leaders gain a clear understanding of tribal sovereignty and

self-reliance." NCAI expects a tremendous turnout of tribal leaders for the meeting who will be discussing dozens of key issues. The Minneapolis area tribes are serving as the host for this Annual Session.

Other major events will include a special session sponsored by America Online that will focus on the "Digital Divide" in Indian Country and the challenges bringing new communications technologies to Indian communities. One November 14, there will be an award ceremony for the Harvard University project "Honoring Nations" which highlights excellence and provides examples of cutting edge tribal governance programs.

There will also be a Trade Show held on site throughout the week, which will include hundreds of vendors of American Indian arts, clothing and jewelry, as well as in-

formation from dozens of companies and agencies who serve Indian country. On November 16, one of NCAI's major sponsors, the Bank of America, will once again host the Gala Banquet.

Other special events for the week include a "Youth Track" leadership training program for Indian youth, a Welcoming Reception held on Sunday, November 12 for NCAI registrants; the Miss NCAI pageant will be held on Monday, November 13; a youth luncheon on Tuesday, November 14; a Women's Honoring luncheon held on Wednesday, November 15; and a Cultural Celebration held Wednesday, November 15.

For more information on the Annual Session or any of the events, or if you would like to receive information about sponsorship and advertising opportunities, please contact the NCAI offices at 202-466-7767 or visit our web site at www.ncai.org.

## The Indian Warrior: Information and tips for the Veterans

### VA sets new rules for combat-wounded Vets

Veterans awarded the Purple Heart for combat wounds will now find it easier to get medical care from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA). Under new VA rules, Purple Heart recipients now have a higher priority for healthcare services than before. Also, they do not have to make out-of-pocket payments, technically known as "co-payments," for either inpatient or outpatient VA medical services. The new VA rules also authorize the VA to reimburse Purple Heart recipients for any medical co-payments made to VA for care given after November 29, 1999. Purple Heart recipients are still responsible for making co-payments of \$2 for each 30-day supply of prescription medicine given to outpatients for conditions that are not related to military service.

Purple Heart recipients who have medical conditions they believe are related to their military service are urged to contact their county veterans service officer or the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs.

"VA has always recognized and appreciated the contributions of those who hold the Purple Heart," said Dr. Thomas L. Garthwaite, VA's Acting Under Secretary for Health.



"Now, we are affording those veterans a priority befitting their service to this nation."

The new rules affect VA health care and not VA disability compensation. The Purple Heart alone does not qualify veterans for VA disability compensation. Compensation re-

quires a separate screening process. Nor does the Purple Heart affect eligibility for long-term nursing care.

Congress, in the Veteran's Millennium Health Care and Benefits Act, approved VA's new eligibility rules for Purple Heart recipients last year. The change affects the step priority groups 4 through 7 into priority group 3. Purple Heart recipients who qualify for priority groups 1 or 2 by virtue of service-connected disabilities will remain in those higher priority groups.

Anyone claiming benefits as a recipient of the Purple Heart must prove that they have been awarded the decoration. VA will accept the following as proof: Defense Department Form 214, discharge papers, military personnel records, orders or award certificates.

The Purple Heart is the nation's oldest military medal. President George Washington presented the first medals in 1783. Today, there are approximately 600,000 living veterans who were wounded in combat and have received the medal.

### GIVE A KIND WORD

Do you know a heart that hungers  
For a word of love and cheer?  
There are many such about us;  
It may be that one is near.

Look around you. If you find it  
Speak the word that's needed so,  
And your own heart may be strengthened  
By the help that you bestow.

Never think kind words are wasted,  
Bread on waters cast are they,  
And it may be we shall find them  
Coming back to us, some day.

Coming back when sorely needed,  
In a time of sore distress,  
So, my friend, let's give them freely;  
Gift and giver God will bless.

Author Unknown

\* To tyhe world, you may be one person;  
but to one person, you may be the world.\*

**Blah, Blah, Blah,  
Blah, Blah.  
Tired of the  
Same ol' Same ol'  
Yadda Yadda Yadda  
Time for some good old  
Indin humor.**

Join us for  
the Honor Christopher  
ColumbusDay  
(the other 2 She-Ya-Poo's that  
were lost was Lewis & Clark)  
on October 9, 2000.

We are hosting  
"The Rez Car Parade"  
& lunch so come on  
down for a few laughs  
and some good ole Indin  
snacks at our own Elmer  
Quinn Park  
Char Herkshan

### VA designates additional funding for Hepatitis C



Efforts to combat Hepatitis C among veterans got a shot in the arm recently when the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) designated an additional \$20 million for outreach, testing, counseling and treating veterans with the virus.

"Nearly four million Americans are believed to be infected with hepatitis C and more alarming is that veterans, particularly Vietnam-era veterans, are four to five times more likely to have the virus," said former Secretary of Veterans Affairs Togo D. West, Jr. "With veterans at such a high risk, VA has launched an all-out effort to identify and treat those with the virus. The additional money will support the hiring of treatment experts, provide the expensive medications and aggressively market VA's testing programs."

The money, coming from a VA contingency fund, will be divided among VA's 22 regional healthcare networks called Veterans Integrated Service Networks (VISNs). The amount allocated to each VISN is based upon each network's hepatitis C

C costs during the first half of fiscal year 2000. "Although Hepatitis C is widespread, we know there are pockets in the country where it is more prevalent," said West. "Our goal is to help offset costs in those areas." Portland VA Medical Center (VISN 20) has been allocated the seventh largest dollar amount with the allocation of \$1,004,857.

Hepatitis C is a liver disease caused by infection with the hepatitis C virus (HCV). The virus is found in the blood of persons who have this disease and is spread by contact with infected blood. Veterans at risk for hepatitis C should receive an HCV blood test to determine their HCV status. It is important to note that outward signs and symptoms often do not occur for up to 30 years after infection. Most HCV-positive veterans are unaware of their own condition and are consequently unaware that they are a source of transmission to others.

Veterans should consider being tested are those who:

- are Vietnam-era veterans
- have been exposed to someone else's blood through contact with a bleeding wound through needlestick injury or in any other way
- received a blood transfusion or organ transplant prior to 1992
- were treated with blood products prior to 1987
- have ever, even once, used a needle to inject drugs like heroin or cocaine
- have ever, even once, used cocaine intranasally (snorted it through a straw or bill)
- have ever had sex with someone who had HCV or had multiple

- partners
- have ever had a tattoo or a body part pierced
- have ever had acupuncture with non-disposable needles
- have ever had kidney dialysis
- have ever shared a razor or toothbrush with someone who may have been infected with HCV
- have ever had an unexplained abnormal liver function test
- have ever suffered from unexplained liver disease
- have ever worked in a



healthcare occupation

- have ever been exposed to hepatitis A or hepatitis B and received a serum gamma globulin immunization.

To request an HCV test, veterans can contact their local county veterans' service officer or the Oregon Department of Veterans Affairs at 1-800-692-9666 for assistance. Veterans can also call the VA Medical Center Enrollment and Eligibility Office directly at 1-800-949-1004 ext. 55069 or (503) 273-5069 to request testing.

### HIP applications available

The Warm Springs Housing Department is accepting applications for the BIA Home Improvement Program (HIP) grants. The HIP program will allow qualified homeowners to receive a grant that will be used to make repairs to their home. Applications can be picked up at the Housing Department. The deadline for accepting applications is September 29, 2000.

The HIP program will assist as many homeowners as the budget allows. The Warm Springs Tribes receive a limited amount of funding

each fiscal year. Each applicant's request will be reviewed for completeness, assigned points on key criteria and then prioritized in accordance with the BIA policy. Applicants will be required to: fill out an application, provide a copy of their 1999 tax return, home ownership, copies of awards from SSI/AFS, proof of Indian Blood and statement of holdings at IIM.

For more details contact the HIP coordinator Lee Tom at the Housing office or call him at 541-553-3250.

### OSU launches research vessel, Elakha, in Newport, OR

Oregon State University is launching a research vessel this month (August) honoring Native American tradition and Oregon's natural environment while focusing on current ocean ecology.

The 54-foot Elakha will be based at the university's Mark O. Hatfield Marine Science Center in Newport and operated by OSU's College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences.

While the Elakha will be available for a wide variety of projects, the vessel's focus will be assisting OSU researchers Bruce Menge and Jane Lubchenco in studies of Oregon coastal marine systems. Menge and Lubchenco are the university's Wayne and Gladys Valley Professors of Marine Biology and Lubchenco is an OSU Distinguished Professor of Zoology.

The researchers are part of the Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans: A Long-Term Ecological Consortium (PISCO), which brings together researchers from OSU, Stanford University, University of California at Santa Cruz and University of California at Santa Barbara. A major focus of the consortium is the study of

linkages between the fish, invertebrates and algae within marine communities and near-shore oceanographic conditions along Oregon and California coasts. A key question is to determine where the early life stages come from and where they go, researchers said.

The Elakha, which cost about \$500,000, will replace OSU's Sacajawea research vessel, which has been in use since 1969. Funding came as part of an \$18 million grant by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation, which helped establish the PISCO program. Additional funds were provided by the university's Research Office and by the College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences.

"This new vessel will be larger, faster, stabler, safer and will dramatically enhance ecological and oceanographic research capabilities in the near-shore ocean," Menge said. "It will open new vistas for OSU, both in research and instruction."

The Elakha will have a laboratory area, berthing for four, and a small gallery, said Fred Jones, marine superintendent for the college of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences.

Scientific capabilities include a 2,000-pound capacity A-frame and winch, and a flow-through water sampling system. The Elakha, powered by a single, 600-horsepower diesel engine, will have a range of about 575 miles. Endurance will be a maximum of 72 hours, Jones said.

"We expect to use it primarily out of Newport with a range along the Oregon coast, including the Columbia River and other Oregon estuaries, as well as offshore to about 30 nautical miles (35 statute miles)."

Elakha is the Chinook trading language word for sea otter. The name was selected after talks with researchers and representatives of area Native Americans. Chinook trading language is a mixture of sounds and phrases used to ease trade among Northwest tribes not sharing a common language.

The David and Lucile Packard Foundation is a private family foundation established in 1964. It provides grants in several major program areas, including science, population, conservation, arts and children and community.

### Salmon Corps to begin January 2001

The Earth Conservation Corps' (ECC) award-winning Salmon Corps will begin the 2001 program year in January. The program year will conclude in mid-November 2001.

Salmon Corps program years had previously begun in October and ended in August. This change is in response to our partners request for services during planting periods in September. Because of this change, Salmon Corps will not be available for service between the months of September- December 2000.

"We, as an organization, have an opportunity to evaluate how we've served the community during the past six years," said Charles F. Sams III, Northwest Director. "We will be focusing on building a stronger program that continues to meet the needs of the environment and communities we serve."

Salmon Corps began in 1994 with a goal of energizing Native American young adults (18-25 years old) to repair the disappearing salmon habitats of the Columbia River Basin. This approach fulfills ECC's mission of reclaiming two of the country's most threatened resources: the environment and our disadvantaged young people.

Salmon Corps is a dynamic partnership between the Nez Perce Tribe, Shoshone-Bannock Tribes, Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation, City of Portland, AmeriCorps, U.S. Department of Energy/ Bonneville Power Administration, Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission, and various corporations.

Since its inception, Salmon Corps members have successfully built over 410 miles of riparian fencing, outplanted tens of thousands of native trees and vegetation, released over 8.5 million salmon and resident fish within the Columbia River Basin (160,000 square miles), assisted over 25,000 people within five flood zones during flash flood and other high water events, and worked with over 7,000 students in environmental education, reading, and math.

We look forward to continuing Salmon Corps service to the communities and environment of the Pacific Northwest in January 2001. Please contact the ECCNW office at 503-249-0820 for information about scheduling service projects for the 2001 program.

### Court notices

To: Lawrence Caldera  
Warm Springs, OR 97761

Juniper Auto  
PO Box 87  
Madras, OR 97741  
Notice of Informal Hearing  
Case No. IN169-97

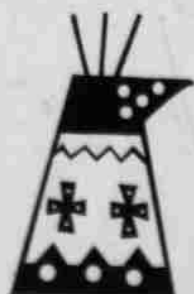
An informal hearing has been scheduled with the Warm Springs Tribal Court on the 23rd day of October, 2000, at 2:30 p.m. This hearing has been scheduled at the request of Juniper Auto for the following reasons: Overdue Account. You are hereby required to appear at this time on your own behalf. It is important that you attempt to resolve this issue, in order to prevent further action against you in a State Court. If you fail to appear at the scheduled time, the presiding judge may issue a warrant for your arrest and require you to post bail to guarantee your appearance. Dated this 11th day of September, 2000.

Walter Langness III  
Judge, Warm Springs Tribal Court

Confederated Tribes of the Warm Springs Reservation of Oregon  
vs.  
Cory Stwyer  
Defendant  
Case No. DO90-00

To: Cory Stwyer;  
You are hereby notified: That the above cited case(s), as filed in the Warm Springs Tribal Court, has been scheduled for trial/hearing at 4:00 p.m. on the 11th day of October, 2000. You are hereby ordered: To be and appear at the Warm Springs Tribal Court at the time and date shown to defend against the charge(s). You may be represented by yourself, by an attorney, or by a spokesman, at your own expense. You may bring any documents you believe are relevant to this cause, and you may bring witnesses to testify on your behalf. You may request the Court to subpoena your witnesses; however, you must submit your list of witnesses no later than two weeks prior to trial; failure to do so will not be considered sufficient reason to postpone the trial. If you have any questions, you should seek legal advice immediately. If you fail to appear as so ordered, the tribal court may enter a complaint for contempt of court and issue a warrant for your arrest. Dated at Warm Springs, on this 12th day of September, 2000.

Lola Sobhappy  
Chief Judge, Warm Springs Tribal Court



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All members of the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs will receive the Spilyay Tymoo at no cost.

Spilyay Tymoo is published bi-weekly by the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs.

### F.A.S. Workshop

Fetal Alcohol Syndrome  
For parents, grandparents, and everyone interested.  
Open your awareness of how children with FAS develop.  
Learn how to meet the needs of children with FAS.

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Saturday, October 28th  
Warm Springs Senior Center  
Childcare and food provided

Sponsor: Self-directed Program of Jefferson County  
For more information call: 475-4457 Madras (ask for Holly) or 553-3313 Warm Springs (ask for Lucille).