

Dream Catcher

Spring 2003

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Office of Public & Indian Housing

Rodger J. Boyd Named Deputy Assistant Secretary for Native American Programs at HUD

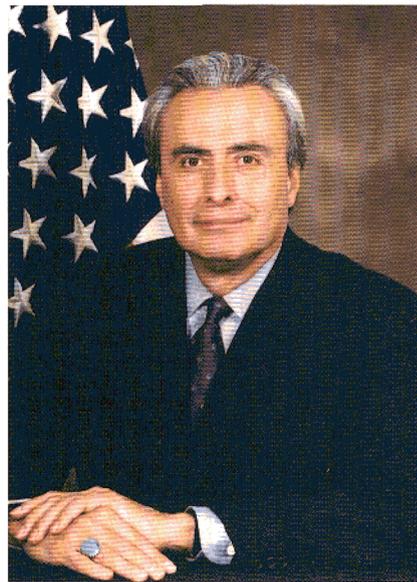
Rodger J. Boyd was named Deputy Assistant Secretary for Native American Programs at HUD in October 2002. An enrolled

member of the Navajo Nation, Mr. Boyd has worked for and with Indian tribal governments, Federal agencies, and the private sector. His government work includes positions held with the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Department of the Treasury's Community Development Financial Institutions Fund, and the Navajo Nation's Division

of Economic Development. As a private consultant, he has worked with tribes in the areas of economic and community development. He holds a Bachelor of Architecture degree from the University of New Mexico and a Master of City and Regional Planning from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Here are some thoughts from Mr. Boyd, written as he

approached his six-month anniversary as Deputy Assistant Secretary:



*Rodger J. Boyd
Deputy Assistant Secretary for
Native American Programs*

"As I write to you today, it has been nearly six months since I was selected as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for the HUD Office of Native American Programs (ONAP). During this brief period of time, I have had many opportunities to meet with tribal leaders, representatives from tribally designated housing entities (TDHEs), tribal organizations at

both the regional and national level, and others who are working daily and diligently to increase organizational capacity and to develop the necessary partnerships to overcome the barriers to creating safe and economically sustainable communities. I have been very impressed and energized by everyone's dedication, fortitude, and desire to improve the

(continued on page 9)

HUD Offers Mold & Moisture Training to Tribes and Tribally Designated Housing Entities

Mold and moisture control is a priority issue in Indian Country. The Office of Native American Programs is offering two-day training sessions around the country to assist tribes and key tribal staff dealing with mold and mildew in homes. General information will be provided on mold in homes, how to identify a moisture problem, and steps you can take to correct current problems (including how to trouble-shoot conditions), and prevent future problems.

Who Should Attend: Tribal leaders; housing staff, including executive directors from tribes and tribally designated housing entities; and others involved with Native American housing issues.

Classes will be held:

June 3-4 in Uncasville, Connecticut, at the Mohegan Casino.

July 29-30 in Seattle, Washington, at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

August 26-27 in Oklahoma City, at the Westin Hotel.

September 23-24 in Mille Lacs, Minnesota, at the Grand Casino.

October 21-22, in Denver, Colorado at the Holiday Inn Downtown.

November 11-12 in Miami, Florida, at the Miccosukee Casino.

Tuition - Registration for these courses is FREE of charge; however, space is limited. No more than three participants per organization will be allowed to

register. Additional staff members will be placed on a waiting list and admitted as space permits.

Registration - You may register online at www.codetalk.fed.us/registration.html, or, call toll-free, **(877) 488-3483**. The fax number is (619) 398-3231

Special Needs - The training facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Persons who need

auxiliary aids or services, such as an interpreter for persons who are hearing impaired, a reader, large print or Braille material, should contact the Training Coordinator at (877) 488-3483 no less than three weeks prior to the training session.

See more training information on pages 4, 5, and 10.



Office of Public & Indian Housing

HUD is the nation's housing agency committed to increasing homeownership, particularly among minorities; creating affordable housing opportunities for low-income Americans; supporting the homeless, elderly, people with disabilities, and people living with AIDS. The Department also promotes economic and community development and enforces the nation's fair housing laws. More information about HUD and its programs is available on the Internet at www.hud.gov.

HUD's Office of Native American Programs, ONAP, administers the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, as amended, and other programs to assist American Indians and Alaska Natives. ONAP's goals are to ensure that safe, decent, and affordable housing is available to Native American families; to create economic opportunities for tribes and Indian housing residents; to assist

tribes with community development; and to ensure fiscal integrity in the operation of the programs.

ONAP publishes the *Dream Catcher* to share news about housing, economic development, and other issues facing Indian Country. Back issues are posted on ONAP's CodeTalk website:

www.codetalk.fed.us/Dreamcatcher.html

To contribute an article or an announcement to *Dream Catcher*, or if you would like to be put on our mailing list, please write to the

Dream Catcher Editor
HUD-ONAP Rm. 4126
451 Seventh St., SW
Washington, DC 20410

Or send an email to:

francis_l_harjo@hud.gov
or emily_wright@hud.gov

Lakota Fund Executive Director Appointed to National Housing & Community Development Advisory Board

Monica Drapeaux, Executive Director of the Lakota Fund on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, was appointed on February 10, 2003, to the Housing Impact Advisory Council, an advisory board of Fannie Mae, by Fannie Mae Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Franklin D. Raines.

group of outstanding leaders in the housing and community development field serve on our Housing Impact Advisory Council," said Raines. "We will work together to build on past successes and will strive to better meet the housing needs of communities and individuals across the country."

Sioux Tribe, Ms. Drapeaux joined the Lakota Fund in 2001. The Lakota Fund is a nonprofit organization on the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation in South Dakota that promotes economic growth, sustainability, and community development in a culturally sensitive manner.

Established in 1993, the Housing Impact Advisory Council is a national board of professionals dedicated to increasing the availability of affordable mortgage financing in America's underserved communities. Council members meet three times a year with Fannie Mae's senior management to discuss policy issues affecting low- and moderate-income homebuyers and renters. The Council has 58 members, including civic leaders; nonprofits; state housing agency and financial institution executives; developers; and legal, housing, and real estate professionals.

A member of the Yankton

The Lakota Fund has:



*Monica Drapeaux,
Executive Director of the Lakota Fund*

- * provided approximately 500 loans valued at nearly \$2 million
- * provided training to more than 250 entrepreneurs
- * provided marketing services to more than 1,500 arts and crafts micro-entrepreneurs
- * developed 30 units of low-income housing
- * created the Spirit Horse Gallery, a nationally known crafts gallery; and
- * developed a Tribal Business Information Center in partnership with the U.S. Small Business Administration.

"Fannie Mae is honored to have this



Low-Income Housing Tax Credits In the News . . .

The Standing Rock Indian Housing Authority has used Low Income Housing Tax Credits to complete 40 new rental housing units and has 134 more under

construction, 30 of which are rehabs. Total project development costs: \$16,506,230.

On the Cheyenne River Reservation, Oti Kaga Inc., one of only six reservation-based Community Housing Development Organizations in the United States,

has developed three housing projects, using USDA Program 515 low-interest loans (at 1% interest), leveraged with Low Income Housing Tax Credits. These projects produced 36 units and cost \$3,228,742. Oti Kaga also provides a rental assistance subsidy to the low-income tenants.

National American Indian Housing Council Offers Free Training in Housing Management

Accounting Systems

This is an intensive three-day training course designed to provide Indian housing professionals with an orientation to the financial management system in a housing business, and to promote an understanding of the role of each participant in this management function, within the local tribally designated housing entity. Participants will study transactions involved in cash management and the accounting applications for entering into the books of account. The course provides a forum for technical assistance and group (peer) assistance and sharing of onsite experiences, as well as personal assessment in job roles and a focus on future goals and targets.

Who should attend? This training is targeted to those who are, or are about to be, in a position of a financial manager,

controller, accountant, bookkeeper, or accounting technician; or a manager required to supervise these people. A special segment is offered for groups of professionals more experienced or skilled in the accounting field, covering the concepts of accounting in this specific financial environment.

Upon completion of this course, participants will have:

- * An overview understanding of the business environment and operation, and its relevance to financial management.

- * An overview understanding of concepts and basics of generally accepted accounting practices (GAAP).

- * Greater understanding of management functions, job roles and responsibilities in the finance field.

- * Improved capabilities, proficiency, and enhancement of job skills in the performance of financial functions of the local business entity; and

- * Knowledge about special financial management and accounting skills and concepts.

An Accounting Systems Training was held in February 2003, in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. Additional Accounting Systems training will be held:

April 29 - May 1, in Tucson, Arizona; and

August 26-28, in Spokane, Washington.

For more information on the Accounting Systems Training Course, call the instructor, Rick Farrell, at (208) 938-2951.

Small Tribes Housing Implementation Course

This course includes a combination of lecture, demonstrations, and a comprehensive case study to provide specific guidance for the development of Indian Housing Plans, housing programs and policies, budget and finance, and other essential topics. A two-volume course workbook and CD include important reference and guidance materials.

Who should attend? This course is developed and intended for tribal council and housing committee members; commissioners; and housing staff

with responsibility for creating, improving, and implementing housing programs funded by Indian Housing Block Grants from HUD.

While specifically designed to assist small tribes and tribally designated housing entities, this course would be beneficial to anyone who is new to Indian housing or would like to gain hands-on skills in implementing a housing program. Persons from all types of organizations are encouraged to attend.

During this course, participants will:

- * Gain an understanding of the national objectives and purpose of

the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 (NAHASDA) and its Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) Program.

- * Become familiar with affordable housing activities.

- * Gain an understanding of the benefits of good planning from a broad strategic outlook through the specific requirements of the Indian Housing Plan.

- * Learn the relevant housing program and procedure requirements, and policies of NAHASDA.

- * Be introduced to reporting

and self-monitoring requirements of Indian housing programs.

* Receive a basic introduction to budget and accounting requirements and practices relevant to the IHBG.

Small Tribes Housing Implementation Courses have been held in Fairbanks, Alaska and Tulsa, Oklahoma. The Small Tribes Training will also be held:

May 20-22, in Denver, Colorado

June 3-5, in Spokane, Washington; and

October 28-30, in Phoenix, Arizona.

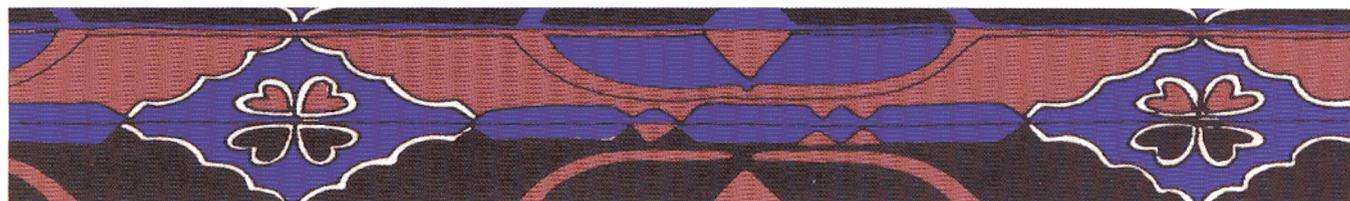
For more information on the Small Tribes Housing Implementation Course, call one of the instructors: Bruce Kovarik, at (907) 696-7424, or Donna Fairbanks, at (715) 472-2260.

NAIHC Offers Scholarship Assistance

Scholarship assistance may be available for NAIHC's technical assistance courses. If your tribe or tribally designated housing entity is the recipient of Indian Housing Block Grant funds, you are eligible to apply if you are a housing staffer, a committee member, or a tribal council member. Scholarship assistance may be used to cover the registration fee (if applicable) and travel expense. NAIHC also offers scholarships for students who wish to attend classes offered by HUD's Office of Native American Programs. Scholarships are awarded based upon need, as determined by a tribe's or a tribally designated housing entity's Indian Housing Block Grant amount. For information on the Scholarship Program, call NAIHC Field Services, toll-free, at (800) 284-9165.

For hotel information, call NAIHC Field Services, toll-free, at (800) 284-9165.

For more information about the National American Indian Housing Council, visit the website at www.naihc.net.



On-Line Tribal Tourism Toolkit at www.nathpo.org

The National Association of Tribal Historic Preservation Officers announces publication of the ***Tribal Tourism Toolkit for the Lewis and Clark Bicentennial and Other Tribal Opportunities***. A limited number of printed copies are available. You may view and download the Toolkit from the NATHPO website, www.nathpo.org.

According to the Toolkit, "Tribal tourism is a demonstration of tribal sovereignty, in this case, through the tribe's decisions of cultural site protection

and interpretation. The Toolkit provides assistance to tribes with tourism development and management."

The Toolkit walks readers through the steps in tourism development, including creation of a marketing plan. Helpful appendices describe tourism trends and provide sample surveys to use in planning and evaluations. There is also a guide to financial and technical assistance provided by Federal agencies and other organizations that make grants for tourism projects.

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Title VI Loan Guarantee Program Leveraging Your IHBG Dollars

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One of the primary objectives of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) is to ensure better access to private capital markets for Indian tribes. Historically, private lenders and investors have been reluctant to participate in lending programs within Indian areas due to remote locations, cumbersome work with trust lands, and a lack of understanding of individual tribes.

The purpose of the Title VI Loan Guarantee Program is to assist Indian Housing Block Grant (IHBG) recipients that want to finance eligible affordable housing activities but are unable to secure financing without the assistance of the federal guarantee. IHBG funds are leveraged to gain greater economic benefit.

A federal guarantee is a pledge by the U.S. Government to repay all or a portion of the unpaid principal balance and accrued interest for an obligation by a borrower to a lender after a default under the terms of the repayment agreement.

Using the Title VI Program, the borrower leverages IHBG funds to finance affordable housing activities by pledging future grant funds as security for the repayment of the guaranteed obligation. A private lender or investor provides the financing and HUD provides the guarantee to the lender or investor.

The full faith and credit of the United States is pledged to the repayment of 95% of the unpaid principal balance and accrued

interest. Lenders or investors assume a 5% risk.

Title VI Program objectives are to develop affordable housing; increase access to private capital; further economic growth; and, encourage investment and participation of banks and thrifts that do not customarily serve Indian reservations.

For more information, please call, toll-free, 1-800-561-5913, or, visit our website at

www.codetalk.fed.us/loan184



Title VI Loan Guarantee Program's Successes in Indian Country

The Title VI Loan Guarantee Program, authorized by the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996, has been used successfully in a number of Native American communities. For more information, please call, toll-free, 1-800-561-5913, or, visit the website at www.codetalk.fed.us/loan184

Mowa Choctaw Housing Authority, Alabama The tribally designated housing entity (TDHE) will build 12 single-family,

4-bedroom homes in Mobile and Washington Counties in Alabama. The homes will be on fee simple land owned by tribal members or the TDHE, including 5 homes to be built in a subdivision previously developed by the housing authority. Whitney National Bank originated the Title VI loan. With a 78-month maturity, repayment with IHBG funds will be structured as quarterly interest payments for 18 months, and then interest quarterly and principal annually, based on a 5-year amortization.

Salish and Kootenai Housing Authority,

Montana The TDHE's Title VI loan, originated by Ronan State Bank in Ronan, Montana, was used to purchase and renovate a mobile home park in Pablo, Montana. The redesign of Willow Wynne Mobile Home Park includes upgrades to the water and sewer system and a reduction in the number of units to enhance livability. The lot rentals and IHBG funds will be used for the annual debt service payment on the 15-year loan.

Asa'Carsamiut Tribal Council, Alaska Mountain Village, Alaska, is a remote

community accessible only by river, air, or dogsled, 150 miles northwest of Bethel. It is the site of the *first* Title VI guaranteed loan. The modular housing units, constructed in Palmer, Alaska, and shipped by barge to the home sites, will provide affordable rental housing for eight families. First National Bank Alaska is the lender for the fixed rate, 20-year loan. The annual loan payment will coincide with the receipt of IHBG funds.

Catawba Indian Nation, ISWA Development Corporation, South Carolina Green Earth, a master-planned community located in York County, South Carolina, was developed with respect for wildlife habitat and wetlands preservation for the Catawba Indian Nation by the ISWA Development Corporation. The 120 units in Phase I include 90 single-family rentals (lease with an option to purchase) and 30 multifamily units. Project funding included Indian Health Service water and sewer grants, Rural Housing Grant funds, the IHBG, and a Title VI guaranteed loan. The First Union Title VI loan includes a 2½-year construction period based on the LIBOR floating rate (the “London Interbank Exchange Rate”), plus margin. Monthly payments with a 20-year amortization begin with the conversion to the permanent fixed rate loan.

Northern Arapaho Tribal Housing, Wyoming The TDHE secured a Title VI loan for water and sewer infrastructure for 10 duplexes (10 two-bedroom and 10 three-bedroom units), funded with Low Income Housing Tax Credits and IHBG funds. All units are located on the Wind River Reservation just north of Riverton, Wyoming. Wells Fargo Bank in Wyoming was the lender for the 5-year Title VI loan. The annual debt

service payment will be made with IHBG funds.

Pojoaque Housing Corporation, New Mexico

The TDHE will construct a 30-unit rental housing development (10 three-bedroom and 20 four-bedroom units), called White Sands Village, at this New Mexico Pueblo. This is the first of a 215-acre multiphase development. The project will be funded with IHBG and Rural Housing and Economic Development Grant funds, a Federal Home Loan Bank (FHLB) Affordable Housing Program Grant, Low Income Housing Tax Credits, and a 20-year Title VI guaranteed loan originated by Century Bank in Santa Fe, New Mexico, with a Fannie Mae commitment. Rental income will be the primary source of the monthly debt service.

Native Village of Unalakleet, Alaska The Native Village Housing Authority of Unalakleet, Alaska plans to construct 20 single-family homeownership units. The units, ranging from 1 to 4 bedrooms, will be built on lots throughout the community and deeded to qualified individuals and families. First National Bank Alaska was the lender for the 20-year loan. Sales proceeds and IHBG funds will be used for the annual debt service payment.

Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Lake Superior Chippewa, Wisconsin

Recognizing the housing needs of young adults and college students on its checkerboard reservation in Wisconsin, the Lac Courte Oreilles Housing Authority, a TDHE, created the Giiwedini Townhouse Project, 40 one-bedroom units in four separate buildings. The resources pooled to develop this project included 1937 Act development funds, Mutual Help proceeds, a Federal Home Loan

Bank (FHLB) Affordable Housing Program grant, Bureau of Indian Affairs Indian Education Program funds, Community Development Block Grant funds, and a Title VI guaranteed loan provided by the Indian-owned Chippewa Valley Bank in Winter, Wisconsin. Monthly payments for the fixed rate, 25-year loan will be made from rental income and IHBG funds.

Northwest Inupiat Housing Authority, Alaska

The TDHE will construct 13 single-family homes, four in the Village of Kobuk, and nine in the Village of Shungnak. The homes will be sold through the New Home Program (down payment and closing cost assistance to mortgage-qualified families) or rented under the Lease-to-Own Program. Funding for the project included an Alaska Housing Finance Corporation Supplemental Grant for infrastructure and energy efficiency and a Title VI guaranteed loan through First National Bank Alaska. The annual debt service payment for the 20-year loan will be funded through rent payments, sales proceeds, and IHBG funds.

Cherokee Housing Authority, Oklahoma This \$50 million Title VI loan will assist the Cherokee Nation meet the housing needs of tribal members in 14 counties of northeast Oklahoma. This 20-year loan was originated by Bank One in Oklahoma to assist the Tribe in the construction of nearly 600 new single-family homes. The lender was able to provide a very attractive interest rate due to the purchase of the loan by Fannie Mae through its American Communities Fund. It is the *largest* Title VI loan guaranteed under NAHASDA. The Housing Authority of the Cherokee Nation will provide low rate, long-term mortgages to the homeowners.

National Native American Families Together Organization Helps Families that Have Children With Disabilities

[www/nativefamilynetwork.com](http://www.nativefamilynetwork.com)

Do you know of a child who has chronic health problems, or difficulty with listening, hearing, or talking? Do you know of a child who has problems with movement, walking, or running? Or difficulty paying attention, learning, or reading?

The National Native American Families Together is an outreach program designed to increase and enhance partnerships between Native American families who have a child with a disability and the professionals serving their children.

NNAFT provides information and training to families who have a child with a disability or a child who receives special education services at school.

“Community Friends” are NNAFT staffers in your community who can provide you with information on the educational rights of your child. Community Friends provide support and information to families, conduct sharing sessions for families, and work with existing family support programs located in the schools.

Contact NNAFT or your local Community Friend for information on the educational rights of children with special needs. NNAFT Community Friends can help parents communicate with school personnel, medical personnel, and other professionals. NNAFT can give advice to parents on how to participate in their child’s educational plan and how to deal with specific learning problems,

behavioral problems, and other disabilities.

NNAFT also conducts workshops to train people to be Community Friends. If you would like NNAFT to provide your community with a workshop, please call, toll-free, 1-877-205-7501 or email naft@moscow.com.

NNAFT’s website has useful links to other special education providers and to other Native American organizations serving children with disabilities.



issues of cultural methodology and traditional models for healing. She is also the owner of Strongheart Resource Development. She has three children and two granddaughters who are speaking the Ojibwe language and learning their dances and songs. Shannon holds seasonal encampments in northern Minnesota for families for Children’s Mental Health, Center for Mental Health, Devlin and Associates and other national organizations.

Contact NNAFT at:

129 West Third
Moscow, Idaho 83843

Phone (208) 885-3500 or, toll-free, 1-877-205-7501.

Email naft@moscow.com.



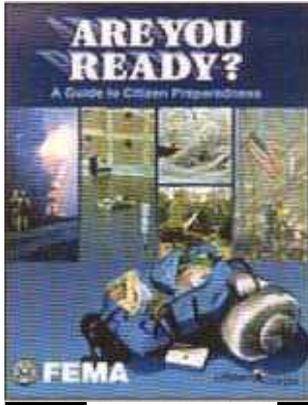
One of NNAFT’s Community Friends is Shannon Crossbear, an Ojibwa Indian living in Lutsen, Minnesota.

Shannon is a trainer and consultant for the National Indian Child Welfare Association. She has done over 500 trainings in the USA and Canada on



Are You Ready? A Guide to Citizen Preparedness brings together facts on disaster

survival techniques, disaster-specific information, and how to prepare for and respond to both natural and man-made disasters. As the most comprehensive guide to personal emergency preparedness published by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), *Are You Ready?* will help individuals prepare themselves and their families for disasters. Revised in September 2002, *Are You Ready?* provides a step-by-step outline on how to prepare a disaster supply kit, emergency planning for people with disabilities, how to locate and evacuate to a shelter, and even



contingency planning for family pets. Man-made threats from hazardous materials and terrorism are also treated in detail. The guide details opportunities for every citizen to become involved in safeguarding their neighbors and communities through FEMA's Citizen Corps (www.citizencorps.gov) initiative and Community Emergency Response Team training program. Copies of *Are You Ready? A Guide to Citizen Preparedness* are available through the FEMA Publications warehouse (1.800.480.2520), FEMA publication H-34. For large quantities, your organization may reprint the publication, or visit the FEMA website at: <http://www.fema.gov/areyouready/>.

**Rodger J. Boyd,
(continued from page 1)**

environment and lives of their people and communities. Those of you representing your tribal communities deserve no less than the full support and dedication of your HUD partners.

I would like to share thoughts and observations about the future of the Office of Native American Programs, and HUD's role in the implementation of the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act (NAHASDA) programs. I am pleased to be able to use the *Dream Catcher* as a forum to share this vision with those of you whom I have not been able to speak with personally.

There are many challenges and barriers. There are also many opportunities for us at HUD to employ a proactive approach to creating opportunity in the face of these challenges. We know we have to invest in our own human capital to fulfill our responsibilities as Federal partners. I also want to stress the importance of working closely with tribal governments and other partners in Indian Country. The people who are living

the issues, who are experiencing the barriers first hand, are the very people who have many of the solutions. While we at HUD recognize the importance of building our own capacity and increasing our ability to better serve you, we also have the responsibility to ensure that representatives of tribes and TDHEs are provided every opportunity to develop diversified housing options, safe and sanitary housing, and sustainable community development that leads to increased opportunities for all community residents.

Over the years, working in Washington and throughout this Nation, I have identified what I think are key building blocks to strengthen our communities and economies. They are:

- creating stable institutions
- investing in human capital
- strengthening legal frameworks
- accessing additional sources of capital; and
- economic diversity.

As we proceed along our paths, we must remember that we are not alone in our efforts and

that we must be inclusive. As key players, we must ensure that all our partners and stakeholders are properly informed, including bankers and investors. Our efforts will define our quality of life—not only for tomorrow, but for the generations to come.

However, it is ultimately a tribe's planning and vision for the future that will shape the world in which its children will grow. HUD Deputy Assistant Secretaries will come and go, but our sovereign Native American nations will live on. With careful planning and with deference to cultural values, we can create healthy and safe environments where children will be able to reach their full potential.

As we face the formidable challenges ahead, we should always keep in our minds the importance of honest and forthright communication. We have everything to gain by working together, for our goals are the same. In my new position as the Deputy Assistant Secretary for the Office of Native American Programs, I will strive to complement your efforts in creating a better life for our people. —R.B.

More HUD Training,

continued from page 2

The Section 184 Loan Guarantee Program is a HUD program that creates homeownership, property rehabilitation, and new construction opportunities for eligible tribal members, tribes, and tribally designated housing entities. The two-day training is designed for individuals who are involved with housing on the reservation or on fee simple land within the operating area of the tribe. Those who should attend training include Community Reinvestment Act Officers, loan originators, processors, and underwriters from banks and mortgage lending institutions.

Section 184 classes will be offered:

July 22-23, 2003 in Green Bay, Wisconsin; and

September 9-10, 2003, in Reno, Nevada.

The Title VI Loan Guarantee Program assists Indian Housing Block Grant recipients who want to finance affordable housing activities, but are unable to secure financing without the federal guarantee. Training includes discussion of eligible affordable housing activities, the loan process, development processes, success stories, and application evaluation.

Title VI classes will be offered:

June 26, 2003, in Anchorage, Alaska

August 6, 2003, in Green Bay, Wisconsin

August 26, 2003, in Seattle, Washington; and

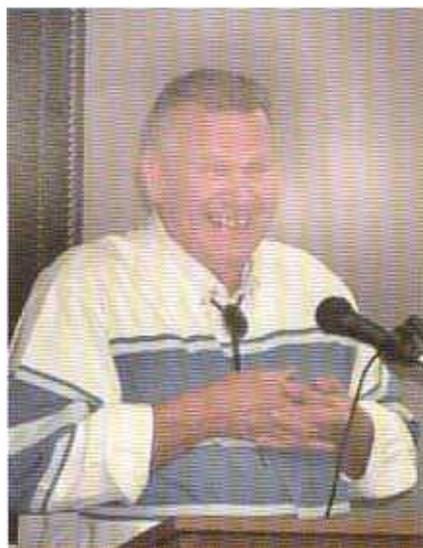
September 16, in Denver, Colorado.

Registration -

You may register online at www.codetalk.fed.us/registration.html, or, call toll-free, **(877) 488-3483**. The fax number is (619) 398-3231

“Retirement? Not a Problem . . . An Opportunity!”

Bill Melton's career spanned over 34 years of service in HUD offices from Alaska to Washington, DC. His career in government began after graduating from the University of Central Arkansas with a degree in Speech and Drama. His first job was for the City of North Little Rock as a Relocation



HUD's Bill Melton, retiring after 34 years of service.

Officer. Bill began his career with HUD in 1969 as an Urban Renewal Representative in Fort Worth.

Bill moved back to Little Rock as a Relocation Specialist. As the years went by, he moved to Anchorage, Alaska as the Director of Community Development. From Anchorage, he moved to New Orleans as a Program Manager, then on to Washington, DC as a Housing Management Specialist. Bill wrote the first NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) for Indian Programs for the Indian Community Development Block Grant program.

Bill came to the Southern Plains Office of Native American Programs in Oklahoma City in 1995, as the Director of Community Development and Tribal Relations. He retired as Director of the Grants Management Division for the

Southern Plains Office of Native American Programs.

Several tribal representatives were present at Bill's retirement party. Many who know him spoke of his great contributions to the Native American Community.

Russell Sossamon, President of the National American Indian Housing Council said, "I would like to thank Bill for his dedicated years of service and wish him the very best in the future. Bill will be greatly missed because of his significant contributions. He is the type of housing professional that makes NAHASDA the success that it is. Bill worked with the Tribes to implement their ideas so that they were consistent with the regulations and statutes."

Bill is looking forward to spending more time with his son, four daughters, two grandsons and five granddaughters.

More HUD Training,

continued from page 10

Section 504 Training provides information regarding the designing of housing that is accessible to people with disabilities. During this two-day workshop, special emphasis will be given to the accessibility requirements of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, a federal law that applies to Native American housing designed or constructed with federal financial assistance. The applicability of the Fair Housing Act and Americans with Disabilities Act

will be discussed in relation to making homes "visitable."

Section 504 classes will be offered:

May 13-14, 2003, in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma

May 20-21, 2003, in Denver, Colorado

June 3-4, 2003, in Phoenix, Arizona; and

September 23-24, 2003, in Anchorage, Alaska.

Special Needs - The training facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities. Persons who need auxiliary aids or services, such as an interpreter for persons who are hearing impaired, a reader, large print or Braille material, should contact the Training Coordinator at (877) 488-3483 no less than three weeks prior to the training session.

Registration -

You may register online at www.codetalk.fed.us/registration.html, or, call toll-free, **(877) 488-3483**. The fax number is (619) 398-3231

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

May

May 5 - ONAP Training, "Title VI Loan Guarantee Program," at the Hyatt Regency, Phoenix, AZ. Visit the website at <http://www.onesullivan.com/Registration.html>.

May 6-7 - The Great Lakes Housing Association Quarterly Meeting, Traverse City, MI.

May 7-8 - The NW Indian Housing Association Quarterly Meeting and Training, Spokane, WA.

May 13-14 - ONAP Training, "Section 504," in Denver, CO. Call (877) 488-3483.

May 13-15 - Department of Interior's Conference on the Environment, in Phoenix, AZ. For information, call Kevin Tennyson, Ofc. of American Indian Trust, 202-208-4926.

May 14-16 - The Southern Plains Indian Housing Association Quarterly Meeting, Shangri-La, Afton, OK.

May 15 - ONAP Training, "Title VI Loan Guarantee Program," at the Hyatt Regency in Phoenix, AZ. Visit

<http://www.onesullivan.com/Registration/html>.

May 19-22 - The Affiliated Tribes of NW Indians Annual Meeting. Location TBD.

May 20-21 - ONAP Training, "Section 504," in Oklahoma City. Call (877) 488-3483.

May 20-22 - National American Indian Housing Council's "Small Tribes Implementation Course," in Denver, CO. Call 800-284-9165.

May 26 - Memorial Day is a Federal holiday.

May 27-28 - "Sovereignty Symposium XVI," sponsored by the Oklahoma Supreme Court; co-sponsored by the Oklahoma Indian Affairs Commission, Sovereignty Symposium, Inc., and the Oklahoma Arts Council; at the Cox Business Services Convention Center

(formerly the Myriad), in Oklahoma City.

June

June 3-4 - ONAP Training, "Mold & Moisture," at the Mohegan Sun,

Uncasville, CT. Visit the website at <http://www.onesullivan.com/Registration/html>.

June 3-4 - ONAP Training, "Section 504," in Phoenix, AZ. Call (877) 488-3483.

June 3-5 - National American Indian Housing Council, "Small Tribes Implementation Course," at the Double Tree City Centre, in Spokane, WA. Call 800-284-9165.

June 16-18 - National Congress of American Indians' Mid-Year Session, at the Sheraton Wild Horse Pass Resort, Gila River Indian Community.

June 23-25 - The National American Indian Housing Council hosts its 29th Annual Convention, at the Sheraton New Orleans Hotel, in New Orleans, LA. Call (800) 284-9165.

June 26 - ONAP Training, "Title VI Loan Guarantee Program," at the Diamond Center Hotel, in Anchorage, AK. Visit <http://www.onesullivan.com/Registration/html>.



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Department of Housing and Urban Development
Office of Native American Programs
451 Seventh Street SW, Room 4126
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