



# NW COALITION FOR HUMAN DIGNITY

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## *NORTHWEST UPDATE*

April 1, 2000

**44. NWCHD SPEAKS OUT ON TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY & ANTI-INDIAN MOVEMENT:** Researcher Robert Crawford and Board member Leah Slaney spoke on the anti-Indian movement and treaty rights to members of the Washington Education Association on March 18<sup>th</sup> near Seattle. Robert Crawford spoke at a regional meeting of the US Forest Service in Colville, Washington on treaty rights, tribal sovereignty and an overview of the anti-Indian movement.

**45. NWCHD IN CHICAGO, ILLINOIS:** NWCHD staff presented at "The Center for New Community's Building Democracy Conference" in Chicago on March 10-11. Newly hired research associate, Michele Lefkowitz, formerly with Communities Against Hate in Eugene Oregon, presented workshops entitled, "Ending the Culture War: Reclaiming the Hearts of Middle America," and "Youth Organizing Youth: Peer-Based Responses to Hate." Eric Ward, Regional Coordinator, presented workshops entitled "It's Not The 60's Anymore: Organizing Strategies and Actions for a Different Era" and "Lady Liberty No More: The Growth of Anti-Immigrant Politics in the U.S."

**46. NWCHD IN FERNDALE, WASHINGTON:** Research Director, Jonn Lunsford, travelled to Ferndale, Washington, to speak at an assembly at Ferndale High School on March 8. Students, along with school faculty, and community members, viewed the film "The New Skinhead," then participated in a discussion afterward. The evening event was part of "P.E.A.C.E. Week" (Promoting, Educating and Celebrating Everyone), a series of week-long activities organized by students in response to recent race-based threats made against students of color at the school. The culprit of the racist letter has yet to be apprehended.

**47. ANTI-GOVERNMENT PROTEST AND RALLY TO BE HELD IN LIBBY, MONTANA:** A protest planned for "Tax Day" in Libby, is calling for "forceful civil disobedience" against the "United Nations, the Clinton Environmental Regime, and the Federal and Global invasion of our rural communities in the inter-mountain west." Planned activities include speeches, the burning of 1040 forms and a United Nations flag, and "other surprise demonstrations." Organizers, Rep. Scott Orr, (R-Libby) and Terry Andreessen, owner of Timberline Auto in Libby, are calling upon citizens to stand up for the rights of gunowners, states rights activists, and others, by joining them at 11:00am on Saturday, April 15<sup>th</sup>. The anti-Semitic weekly paper, *The Spotlight*, is advertising the event in its April 3, 2000, "Datebook."

**48. NEW REPORT ON ANTI-INDIAN MOVEMENT IN MONTANA:** *Drumming Up Resentment: The Anti-Indian Movement in Montana*, is a new 50 page report by the Montana Human Rights Network. It covers the evolution of the anti-Indian movement in Montana from the 1970's through the present looking at key groups and individuals. The report is \$7 and is available from MHRN, PO Box 1222, Helena, MT 59624. (406) 442-5506.

**49. IDAHO ANTI-INDIAN GROUP PREDICTS BLOODSHED:** Rick Laam, of the North Central Idaho

Jurisdictional Alliance (NCIJA), was quoted as saying "bloodshed is inevitable" if relations do not improve between the NCIJA and the Nez Perce Tribe. Laam is also the City Administrator of Orifino, Idaho. The quote came from a report that Laam submitted to the Kamiah Chamber of Commerce. Initially, the Alliance hustled to distance itself by attempting to disown Laam's 26-page document, entitled "The Jurisdictional Differences between the Nez Perce Tribe and the North Central Idaho Jurisdictional Alliance. At first Daniel M. Johnson, executive director of the alliance said "this is not an alliance document, it's his (Lamm's)". The Alliance has since decided to rally around Laam. Clearwater County Commission Earl Pickett said, "Anyone who reads the document and seriously looks at what it says would see we are not racist in the document and we are not argumentative." Nez Perce Tribal leader, Sam Penney said, "This thinly veiled threat serves only to reveal the true intent of the alliance." Penney noted that the NCIJA is damaging Idaho's attempt to shed its image as a haven for bigotry. (*Lewiston Tribune*, March 11<sup>th</sup>)

**50. KOOTENAI COUNTY IDAHO RESIDENTS RECEIVE HATE MAIL FROM CHRISTIAN IDENTITY CHURCH:** The anti-Semitic and racist, 11<sup>th</sup> Hour Remnant Messenger, a Christian Identity church located in Sandpoint Idaho, headed by R. Vincent Bertolini and Carl E. Story, has once again flooded residence of the county with a mass hate mailing. The flier names several groups, including NWCAMH (now NWCHD) and individual human rights activists, as the haters of America and the white adamic race. This is the second mailing from the group this year. The Kootenai County's prosecutors are investigating and will possibly file criminal libel charges, a crime punishable by up to \$5,000 or up to six months in jail.

**51. POLICE ARREST BOTHELL MAN WITH GUNS AND NAZI PARAPHERNALIA:** Stephen Ferguson of Bothell, Washington was taken into custody following a search of his 100<sup>th</sup> Ave. Northwest home. Once inside, authorities found more than 60 guns, including 20 machine guns and 50,000 rounds of ammunition, 4 inert grenades, eight books on explosives, night vision equipment, and 121 marijuana plants. The house was decorated with Nazi regalia, including mannequins in German uniforms standing at attention, a Nazi sextant, and a Nazi parade dagger. Ferguson is being held without bail, after a letter was found during the search, possibly linking him to a firearms smuggling operation out of Ontario, Canada and England. (*Seattle Times*, March 16<sup>th</sup>)

**52. MURDER CHARGES DROPPED AGAINST PENNSYLVANIA NEO-NAZI:** Neo-Nazi skinhead Michael Stehle, 26, a recruiter for William Pierce's National Alliance will go free after prosecutors were unable to show guilt. Stehle was accused of murdering an anti-racist skinhead, Brian Hartzell of Pittsburgh, during an altercation at Stehle's residence. When Pierce heard the news, he said he was pleased charges had been dropped, and criticized the police for filing them in the first place. Pierce's National Alliance is one of the most influential neo-Nazi organizations in the country. (*Post-Gazette*, March 22<sup>nd</sup>)

**53. IDENTITY CONFERENCES PLANNED FOR COLORADO, CALIFORNIA AND MIDWEST:** Christian Identity leader Pastor Peter Peters of LaPorte, Colorado is preparing for several camps and conferences in the upcoming months. The annual Scriptures for America Family Conference, being held in Sonora, California on April 21-23.. Invited guest speakers are: Ken Anderson and Kenny Anderson from Oregon; Ray Capt, California; Earl Jones, New Mexico; Dan Junker, Colorado; George Southwick, California; and Peter Peters, Colorado. Music will be provided by Colorado Cowboy Singer Jim Lynch. May 27-29<sup>th</sup>, are the Scriptures for American Family Bible Conference in West Harrison, Indiana. Speakers include: Bryan Adair, Kentucky; Richard Hoskins, Virginia; Earl Jones, New Mexico; Tom Strassel, Ohio; Charles Weisman, Minnesota; and Peter Peters. Music will be provided by the Masat Family from Texas. June 25-July 2 is another Family Bible Retreat in Golden, Colorado. September 1-4 is a Labor Day gathering near Waupaca, Wisconsin & Amherst Wisconsin.

Lee Shouse, 22, of 101 Oaks Ave., Cle Elum, escaped from Pine Lodge Release Center in Spokane on February 16. Shaun Michael Kollman, 20 of 319 East Moxee Ave., Moxee, escaped from Community Custody in Yakima on February 14. Both individuals have extensive criminal records. Shouse is believed to have ties to white supremacists and the Aryan Nations. He is believed to be armed. Kittitas County law enforcement officials believe the two may be heading their way to seek refuge from the law. Both have several friends and family members in the area. (*Daily Record*, February 18<sup>th</sup>)

**55. MURDER OF ALBANY HISPANIC TEEN YIELDS PRISON SENTENCE:** Tyrel Glenn Attebery was found guilty of attempting to murder a Hispanic teen-ager on Nov. 10, 1998, at the Bowman Park boat ramp in Albany, Oregon. He was sentenced to 8 1/2 years in prison. His accomplice, Corey Waterman, 19, pleaded no contest and was sentenced last June to more than 80 months or less than seven years in prison.

**56. RACIST HATE MAILING TARGETS SCHOOLS SNOQUALMIE, WASH:** Snoqualmie Elementary and North Bend Elementary principals both received hate mail from a yet to be determined source. "At first I was surprised and shocked and then we found it disgusting," Principal Lisa Sackett said when she opened the disturbing letter. North Bend Elementary Principal Linda Sirianni, as well as some individual community members, also received the mailing. The contents of the four-page racist hate mail included racist slogans, swastikas, and disparaging characterizations of ethnic minorities. An advertisement and solicitation for WAR (White Aryan Resistance) newspaper, touting itself as the "most racist newspaper on earth" and asking for all checks and money orders be made to John Metzger, was included in the packet. School officials are taking the mailing very seriously, and are communicating with NWCHD to address the situation. (*Snoqualmie Valley Record*, March 23)

**57. WASHINGTON STATE JUDGE RULES I-695 UNCONSTITUTIONAL:** King County Superior Court Judge Robert Alsdorf struck down Initiative-695, the anti-tax initiative put forward by Tim Eyeman. Eyeman first rose to prominence as co-chair of the Washington State Civil Rights Initiative that overturned affirmative action in Washington state. I-695 called for replacing the state's motor vehicle excise tax with a flat \$30 fee, and requiring voter approval of all future tax and fee increases. Alsdorf ruled that I-695 violated a constitutional provision that prohibits two subjects from being covered by the same bill or initiative, and that tax reduction and public vote requirement are two separate issues. (*The Bellingham Herald*, March 15<sup>th</sup>)

... The CHD Research Department prefers incident reports, newspaper clippings, event write-ups, questions and comments to be e-mailed to [chdpdx@aol.com](mailto:chdpdx@aol.com). Alternatively you can mail such items to the address below or call us at the numbers listed below. CHD Research staff rely upon such information to fill out much of the Northwest Update and we appreciate your contributions.

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