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"Building Communicative Bridges
In A Tri-racial Setting."

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WHEN IT COMES TO RIGHTS OF INDIANS, THE U.S. CONSTITUTION HAS BEEN 'TRAMPLED ON' Says Vernon Bellecourt



Vernon Bellecourt...Expresses Indian grievances in pre-Thanksgiving talk at PSU.

"When it comes to Indian rights, both the Republicans and Democrats have trampled on the U.S. Constitution," said Vernon Bellecourt, a national Indian leader speaking at PSU's Native American Resource Center just before Thanksgiving.

Bellecourt, dressed in colorful attire which included a red shirt, black vest and Indian necklace, traced events through history that showed a "travesty of justice" where the Indians were concerned, he claimed.

He emphasized that the land and its resources have been stolen from the Indians. "America talks about the free enterprise system. You come into someone's land. You steal their land and steal their natural resources and you build a nation on the backs of white, Asian and black slaves. One thing we can say. We never submitted to the slaves masters. We chose death or starvation first," Bellecourt said.

Bellecourt, a leader of the White Earth Chippewa/Anishinabe Nation and a representative of the International Indian Treaty Council, said because of the mistreatment of Indians it was easy for them to tell Ronald Reagan on Thanksgiving that "he could take his turkey and stuff it."

Describing himself as one of the founders of the Rainbow Coalition, Bellecourt said he has endorsed Jesse Jackson for president. Bellecourt said his new Alliance Party is going to have candidates on the ballot in all 50 states.

"We believe America needs to build a third political party," Bellecourt asserted. "That party is the new Alliance Party. If Jesse Jackson gets the nomination, which he should--they are confident he will carry Iowa and the South--we are going to put all of our energies and resources and organization behind the campaign of Jesse Jackson."

If Jackson does not get the Democratic nomination, Bellecourt said. "We know what the cause will be."

Noting that some have said that Jackson has moved too close to the center of the Democratic Party, Bellecourt injected: "Well, we've given all kinds of other people a chance in Washington. I guess we can take a chance on a black man, can't we?"

Should Jackson not receive the nomination, however, Bellecourt said the new Alliance Party is going to run in "all 50 states a young black Ph.D. from Harlem named Lenora

Fulani." According to brochures distributed at the talk, she is a "community, women's and civil rights leader from New York"...who has a "distinguished record as a spokesperson for various liberal causes, who appears regularly on television and radio in all major cities reaching all major markets."

Bellecourt said the Alliance Party is "building an independent third party getting ready for 1992 and 1996." Bellecourt also introduced to the almost 100 people who attended his talk the national chairperson of the new Alliance Party, Emily Carter, and Amy Freeman, state co-chairperson of that party. "We are going to be around today visiting in your offices, etc.," said Bellecourt.

In his remarks, Bellecourt referred to 1992 when he said American is going to celebrate the 500-year anniversary of the discovery of America by Columbus. "There will be a frenzy of patriotism like we saw at the Statue of Liberty," he noted. Then he pointed out that the "hindend of the Statue of Liberty is turned toward the Indians."

He then stated: "We have been oppressed for 500 years as Indians, and as Indians we are rising up."

Bellecourt is very "disturbed over the United States' intervention in Central America. "This country wants to maintain Central America as a plantation for America," he claimed, criticizing big American corporations with interest there like "the United Fruit Company."

He said American Indians have served faithfully in World War I, II, the Korean War and Vietnam and "are killing our Indian brothers and sisters in Central America." And, he added, they are doing this for "U.S. and Israeli-supported regimes."

Talking about how famed Indian leaders like Sitting Bull and Crazy Horse were "assassinated," Bellecourt said, according to America's leaders, everyone is a terrorist in the world. Yet, he notes, "America flies over North Africa, bombs the people of Libya in their sleep, kills their babies and children and come back and says, 'They're in Guatemala and 40,000 deaths in Nicaragua. My friends, is that not terrorism?'" he asked.

He said the reason that the Indian people have suffered is because of such "chronic cycles of poverty, which breathes despair, frustration, alcoholism, drug addiction, battered wives, battered husbands, battered children, broken homes, inadequate home care, inadequate opportunities, inadequate education, inadequate housing...because we have been removed from the land, and the resources from the land have been exploited by the multi-national corporations--the same ones who are behind the killings in Central and South America.

"We have the absolute right to develop the resources of the land for the benefit of our people--and then the rest of America--instead of the other way around, my friends."

In discussing "Columbus to the Constitution to the Present," Bellecourt described Columbus as a man "who was hopelessly lost," and said of the early settlers: "They came with a Bible in one hand and a musket in the other." Of the missionaries, he noted that they came and gave the Indians Bibles and prayed. "When we opened our eyes, we had the Bibles, and they had the land." He said Indians already worshipped a "Great Spirit" before the white man came.

"We are faced with some very difficult times," Bellecourt said in closing. "The White Businessman's Club is still in power, Democrats and Republicans alike." He also warned about politicians who are "friends as long as they can take what they want from us."

Bellecourt concluded with these words: "We are hostile to a government that has never been grateful and a people who have never been thankful for what we have given them. On this Thanksgiving, I don't want to spoil anyone's Thanksgiving dinner. But they should remember the origins of thanksgiving and truly give thanks to the people who gave them their freedom, which they now deny to us."

CORONER'S INQUEST WILL BE OPEN TO PUBLIC

A coroner's inquest into the shooting death of Edward Zabitosky will be held on Friday, December 4, at 9 a.m. at the courthouse in Lumberton. The inquest will be open to the public.

The inquest will be held to determine if there was any wrongdoing in the shooting of Zabitosky. Sheriff Hubert Stone contends that the Pembroke man was shot by Deputy Mark Locklear. According to Stone, Deputy Locklear and Pembroke Police Officer Gralin Locklear were escorting Bill Ransom to the county jail when Zabitosky passed them driving in a careless and reckless manner.

Many rumors have abounded about the shooting. According to county coroner, Chalmers Biggs, no matter what happens at the inquest, Joe Freeman Britt will decide whether any charges are to be filed in the death.

LOCAL HAPPENINGS

BENEFIT SING PLANNED FOR JAMES CHAVIS

On Saturday, December 5, 1987 the Anniversary of the Happy Echoes and Benefit Gospel Sing will be held at God's Holy Assembly Church of Shannon, NC. The benefit is for Bro. James Chavis to purchase a hearing aid. The sing will begin at 7:30 p.m. Special guests will be the Singing Spirituals of Baltimore (from South Broadway Baptist Church) and the other featured groups are: Bro. Lacy Freeman and Family; the Happy Echoes; Bro. Jimmy and the McDonald Quartet; Bro. Felix Deal and Family; and All God's Children.

A drawing will be held in the fellowship hall for a microwave oven, a Holy Bible, and a set of regular blankets. Free admission. A love offering for Bro. Chavis will be conducted. For more information call 843-2168 or Rev. Douglas Maynor at 521-8251.

NEW GOSPEL ALBUM RELEASED

The Scott Sisters and Bro. Travis Bell have released their brand new album cassette entitled *IN HIS WILL* ON November 24, 1987.

This album was recorded at Maggard Sound Studio of Big Stone Gap, Va. and was produced by Bro. Hubert Cooke of the Singing Cookes and features original material by Rev. Douglas Maynor, Sis. Brenda Brewer and Bro. Charles Bell.

You may obtain this album cassette by coming to their regular monthly singing on the third Sunday night or by calling the Scott Sisters at 671-0350 in Lumberton.

JAN. 22 IS APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR YOUTH GRANTS

Youth groups and organizations that wish to implement projects for young people may be able to get the money they need.

Some \$6,500 per year is available to North Carolina organizations composed of youth, ages 13 to 18, who want to implement new programs that will benefit their peers. The mini-grants are being made available by the N.C. Youth Advisory Council (YAC) and average \$500 each.

Jan. 22 is the next application deadline, one of three during the fiscal year.

"I encourage young people and leaders of youth organizations to take advantage of this opportunity to obtain funds for special youth projects," said Secretary of Administration James S. Lofton.

For applications or information, interested persons should contact the Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office, 121 W. Jones St., Raleigh, NC 27603-1334 or phone (919) 733-9296.

Applications will be screened by the State Youth Council Board of Directors when it meets Feb. 5-7 in Charlotte and will be reviewed by the YAC before grants are made. The two councils are located with the Youth Advocacy and Involvement Office of the N.C. Department of Administration.

CANDIDATES ANNOUNCE FOR LRDA BOARD

Lumbee Regional Development Association, Inc. will be conducting an "OPEN ELECTION" on Thursday, December 3, 1987. This election will nominate five (5) members to serve on the LRDA Board of Directors for a three (3) year term. The polling sites and declared candidates are as follows:

LOCATION	PRECINCTS/TOWNSHIPS
1. Green Grove School Gymnasium & Fairgrove School (District #1) Incumbent - Ms. Gloris Hunt is owner of A-Kut-Above Styling Salon located in Fairmont, N.C. She is being challenged by Rev. Hilton Deese, Area Minister residing in Fairmont, N.C.	Fairmont, Orum, Marietta, Sterlings, Thompson
2. Mohr Plaza & Smyrna Church Fellowship Hall (Hwy. 211) (District # 11) Incumbent - Mr. D.W. Lowery is owner of Lowery's Seafood of Lumberton, N.C. He is being challenged by Mr. Jimmy Hunt, a resident of the Smyrna Community	Lumberton, Washart, East Howellsville
3. Union Chapel School Gymnasium (District #17) Mr. Bobby Dean Locklear, a resident of the Union Chapel Community is being challenged by Mr. Earl Cummings, a resident of the Mt. Airy Community.	Burnt Swamp, Philadelphus, Rah Swamp, Red Springs
4. Sandy Grove Church Fellowship Hall (Smiths Community) (District #17) Incumbent - Mr. Harold Deese, In-School Suspension officer at Myrtan Middle School is running unopposed.	Mazon, Smiths
5. Pembroke Elementary School (North Entrance) & Union Elementary School (Front Lobby) (District #17) Incumbent - Mrs. Dorena Lowery, a resident of the Union Community is being challenged by Mr. Timothy Stickleland, a resident of the Harpers Ferry Community	Pembroke, Union

On Election Day, the polling sites will be open from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The ballots will be counted after the polls are closed, and the winner will be publicly announced. The candidate obtaining the highest number of votes cast shall be declared the winner (plurality). A "write-in" candidate may be elected to the Board of Directors of LRDA. Eligibility To Vote: Any Indian 18 years of age and older and residing in the above listed precincts may be eligible to vote.

local bulletin

LITHOGRAPHS OF 'RHODA' STILL AVAILABLE

Harvey Godwin, vice-chairman of the Robeson Historical Drama Association, recently announced that there are still many prints available of the painting "Rhoda" by Ellis Sampson. Sampson was commissioned to do painting of Rhoda Strong Lowry, wife of the Lumbee folk hero Henry Berry Lowry, with all proceeds going to support "Strike at the Wind!" the outdoor drama which chronicles the life and times of Henry Berry Lowry. The original painting was auctioned & sold for \$9,000 to Pembroke businessman, Adolph Dial. According to Godwin, 250 lithographs were printed and are being sold for \$100 each. Godwin believes these prints would make a truly unique Christmas gift and urges the public to help support "Strike at the Wind!" by purchasing one of the remaining prints.

For more information contact Robert Locklear at the "Strike at the Wind!" offices at 521-2489 from 9 a.m.-5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Godwin may be reached at 521-2760 or 521-3429.

CHRISTMAS MUSIC IN MALL

Co-Sponsored By The Lumberton Recreation Dept.

The Lumberton Recreation Department and Biggs Park Mall are co-sponsoring Christmas Music in the Mall December 14 through December 23. If your church, school, club, or special group has an adult or youth choir, handbell group, drama group, or any other appropriate Christmas Group then you are wanted to perform in the Mall during the Holiday Season. The schedule will be Monday through Saturday from 7:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. and Sundays from 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. A piano will be available for your use (Compliments of Merrimac Music). If you are interested or have any questions please call Angie Paul, Program Supervisor at 738-1411.

WILMINGTON CHORAL SOCIETY TO PRESENT CONCERT

The Wilmington Choral Society will present its Fall Concert on Monday, December 14th at 8 p.m. at St. Pauls Episcopal Church which is located at 16th and Market Streets in Wilmington. The concert will feature Bach's "Komm, Jesu, Komm," Vivaldi's "Magnificat" and other short seasonal choral works. The public is invited to this concert and no admission will be charged for the performance.

PLATE SALE PLANNED AT GALILEE HOLINESS CHURCH

Galilee Holiness Church, Fayetteville, is having a plate sale of fish and barbecue on Saturday, Dec. 5 from 10 a.m. until...Plates are \$3.50 each. Rev. Jerry Groves and the members invite everyone to come have lunch. The sale will be held at the old Les Maxwell School on Indian Drive, Fayetteville.

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CRAFT SHOW AND SALE SLATED

The annual Christmas Craft Show and Sale, sponsored by the Robeson County Extension Homemakers, will be held on Friday, December 4, from 10 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. in the O.P. Owenst Extension Center on Highway 72 west of Lumberton.

Approximately 40 exhibitors will feature handmade articles for sale which will include Christmas decorations; ceramics; basketry; woodcarvings; creative stitchery; and home-baked breads, cookies, cakes and candies.

Lunch will be available for purchase and will include sandwiches, beverages, and desserts.

The public is invited to attend.

PLATE SALE PLANNED AT MAGNOLIA

Magnolia High School will hold its annual plate sale on Friday, December 4, 1987 from the hours of 11 a.m. until 7 p.m. Barbecue and chicken plates will be on sale for \$3 per plate.

The proceeds from this fund raising event will be used to buy additional instructional supplies and equipment for the school.

VOTER REGISTRATION PLANNED IN PEMBROKE

Registrars in the Pembroke Township are planning a concentrated effort to register everyone who is qualified to vote. Registrars will be located in three shopping areas on Saturday, December 5 to help those who need to register. Hill's Food Store, Piggly Wiggly and Bo's Food Store will have persons there to help voters.

A special appeal goes to those persons who have allowed themselves to be purged from the rolls by not exercising their right to vote, and also those persons reaching the age of 18. Voting is a privilege, so get registered and VOTE!

The hours are from 9 a.m. until.

PEMBROKE CHRISTMAS PARADE SET FOR DEC. 10

The fifteenth Annual Pembroke Christmas Parade is scheduled for December 10, 1987 at 3 p.m. The parade is sponsored by the Pembroke Jaycees, Chamber of Commerce and the Town of Pembroke.

The parade line up time will begin at 2:30 p.m. in front of the PSU Performing Arts Center. The parade will proceed east on Main Street then turn left on South Jones Street and continue to Fourth Street, then north on Blaine, then proceed back west on Main Street.

The Pembroke Jaycees have been sponsoring the parade for the last fifteen years. The parade itself has varied in size during that period. There are over 85 units expected this year. All organizations, schools, churches and citizens are encouraged to participate. For more information contact Charles Gregory Cummings at 521-9761 or 521-2784.

The parades in the past have been very colorful with floats, bands, marching units, bands, queens and of course the main attraction, Santa Claus.



Dora and Marvin Lowery and [Volunteers] were selected to receive a 1987 Governor's Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service and Leadership at a reception in Wilmington on October 23.

Extension Honors Employee



Dr. Chester Black, director of the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service (left) congratulates L. Everett Davis, Robeson County extension director, at the annual North Carolina Agricultural Extension Awards Program, which was held Thursday evening (Nov. 19) at North Carolina State University, Raleigh. Davis received a state tenure award for 10 years of service. Davis was an agricultural extension agent in the county before he was promoted to director in 1986.

UC BERKELEY OFFERS GRADUATE DEGREES TO AMERICAN INDIANS

The University of California at Berkeley is seeking American Indians and Alaska Natives to apply for admission to graduate programs in the professions, which include: social welfare, public health, engineering, business administration, education, public policy, law and many others.

There are many degree programs which lead to satisfying, well-paid and useful positions, according to Dr. Rick St. Germaine, director of the American Indian Graduate Program at the University.

There is a shortage in academic fields and extreme need for American Indians to teach in colleges and universities. Indian people interested in art, botany, history, languages, ethnic studies, music, political science, and many other areas are urged to consider careers as academicians, bringing their cultural awareness into the classroom at the college or university level.

The University of California at Berkeley has a history of involvement with American Indian students, with many enrolled in different graduate degree programs. There have been 191 Indian and Alaska Native students who have graduated or have been enrolled in MPH Programs through the Berkeley Program.

American Indians and Alaska Natives are eligible to apply for Graduate Minority Program Fellowships, which range from \$5,000-\$7,000, plus payment of (non-resident) tuition and fees.

Feb. 10, 1988 is the deadline for submission of application for the Fall 1988 semester, however, if one is interested in applying for GMP Fellowship, an application must be submitted by January 5, 1988.

For further information, call Dr. St. Germaine collect (415) 642-3225 or write to the American Indian Graduate Program, 140 Earl Warren Hall, University of California, Berkeley, California 94720.