

## WHAT NEXT???

In 1984 approximately 144,000 acres of land in Chester, Lancaster and York Counties, South Carolina was sold for \$21,000. This works out to about 15 cents per acre. The federal government was responsible for the management and oversight of Indian lands during this time and was obligated to look out for Indian interests.

In 1980, the Catawba Indians of South Carolina filed a suit to reclaim the Catawba Reservation of 1840 because the federal government did not approve of the sale of its lands. Eleven years have passed and the Catawba Indian claim still has not been settled. This eleven year struggle is heating up as real estate developers and others are having problems securing title insurance. Several have approached the Catawba Tribal Council asking for releases. These individuals want "special treatment." Most notable among those petitioning the tribal council is Stephen Mernick, a businessman from Toronto who agreed to purchase PTL properties, including Heritage USA, for \$65 million. But Gilbert Blue, chief of the Catawba Indians, stated the council has decided against releasing anyone from tribal claims. The council feels everyone "should be treated equally." Chief Blue stated the Catawba Indians do not wish to punish anyone, but the tribe has legitimate claims and therefore decided to pursue those claims in a legal manner in the courts of the United States of America.

Meanwhile, the Rock Hill Area Chamber of Commerce and the York County Board of Realtors entered the battle claiming the suit is affecting approximately \$200 million in real estate transactions. Both the chamber and realtors are asking for a "negotiated settlement" (?). After eleven years it would appear the chamber and board of realtors could and would do better than this! But, in our opinion, you must remember neither the chamber or realtors are interested in fairness. Neither reverts the land!! Its the \$200 million that concerns them! Out advice....buyers in York, Lancaster, and Chester Counties, South Carolina.... BEWARE!

Another issue effecting Indians will probably be reviewed by the U.S. Supreme Court within the next couple of months. At issue, as we see it, is religious freedom. The issue concerns the use of peyote as a sacrament in the Native American Church. This is an important test case in which religious freedoms are balanced against public perceptions, fashion and whimsy. We would remind the public that Indian religious practices did not evolve yesterday!

We are very concerned about the attack on religious freedom in country. The spiritual use of peyote, among Indians, goes back even before the founding of these United States of America. Peyote is not dished out to each and every newcomer to the church. It is a special religious ceremony with deep religious significance, meaning and import. The failure of the state of Oregon to recognize and protect religious freedom is beyond us and deserves contempt and a united effort to insure this does not succeed. We feel this is an unwarranted attack on not only fundamental and longstanding religious practice and

freedom, but also an attack on Indians in particular. We can only hope the court, even though its considered a conservative court, will uphold the fundamental freedom of worshippers to pursue salvation and enlightenment according to those religious doctrines and practices, especially those which were established long before anyone envisioned a United States much less a U.S. Supreme Court. At times like these we must curse Columbus. He should have minded his own business or else found the "right" country....On second thought...we realize the country of India has its own special problems. Heck, Columbus...why couldn't you have remained home....a great many of us might be better off!

Perhaps many of you watch the ABC-TV sitcom "Growing Pains," if so you probably recognize the name Julie Costello. This "part" is played by actress Julie McCullough. You are probably asking yourself, "so what?"

Well, Ms. McCullough was selected by the Azalea Festival committee to be the Azalea Queen for Wilmington's upcoming festival. You are probably still asking yourself, "so what?"

Unfortunately, it seems some church members or perhaps "leaders" read or discovered (we are not sure they can read although we know they can look at pictures) Ms. McCullough posed for pictures in Playboy Magazine. In addition, Ms. McCullough has been featured in a couple of movies in which she was scantily clad. So, religious group(s), unfortunately mostly Baptist, decided Ms. McCullough was not worthy of the Azalea crown. They wrote letters to the organizing committee and implied Baptists would not attend the event if Ms. McCullough was not replaced as the "Azalea Queen."

The azalea committee caved in and decided to replace Ms. McCullough. But, we ask you, what could you expect from such a group. After all, azaleas are pretty but everyone knows they are "here today and gone tomorrow" and now, thanks to the special, Wilmington Baptists, we also know azaleas and the queens of these flowers are PURE!

We have one recommendation for the organizers in Wilmington. From now on require all of your "queens" to submit to a medical examination to certify virginity! Talking about purity...even the Baptists will support you, on that! (Note: Personally, we've always liked Dogwoods better! We hope these judgemental, so-called "Baptists" can live up to their standard! Of course we won't be there to see if they do...we'll skip the azaleas in Wilmington this year.) Ever wonder what the azalea committee and jelly fish have in common??? Our answer...NO BACKBONE!!

Timothy Jacobs returned to North Carolina to face state charges of kidnapping related to the taking of hostages at a local newspaper in February, 1988.

Jacobs was brought before Cumberland County Magistrate, Raymond York, and was informed he was being held without bail. Later Judge Anthony Brannon set his bail at \$100,000 and he remains in the Cumberland County Jail.

We will closely monitor and report on the events surrounding Timothy Jacobs. As long as he is out of Robeson County we feel some comfort regarding his safety. Officials in North Carolina are on notice and must insure Timothy is safe and secure and will live to stand trial, if that is what North Carolina officials truly desire. As we see it, the State of North Carolina has placed itself in great jeopardy. As a people, we know Timothy Jacobs wants to live! There can be no accidents--we've seen too many commit suicide in jail--and in Timothy's case we know this is not possible! He has too much to contribute, too much to live for--we will watch!!

From public statements made by Timothy, he seems willing to do whatever it takes to put everything behind him so he can go on with his life and contribute in a positive manner to society. We hope his public expressions receive the support and consideration they deserve.

We just don't know about the idea that the minimum wage should be increased. Really, we support an increase and we apparently favor the plan submitted by the Democrats. But, it seems we have two sides.

The Democrats now wish to raise the minimum wage to only \$4.55 by October 1, 1991. The Republicans, led by G.H.W. Bush, that's President Bush to those who don't know, desire a maximum-minimum wage of \$4.25 per hour. Republicans are siding with business groups who are the major contributors to the GOP and Democrats are siding with organized labor which contributed overwhelmingly to Democrats in the last election.

Unfortunately, neither Democrats or Republicans seem to side with the poor in our society! In such battles, unfortunately, the poor will lose again!

In Pleasant Hill, South Carolina you would think everything was ideal. After all, it is called "Pleasant Hill."

But, in this section of the country, they still have "two" high school proms--one for "whites" and one for "blacks." Seems the whites like to attend a party in Myrtle Beach which is organized by an all-white "members only" club.

The school sponsored Magical Midnight Hour prom but no whites attended. Seems this has been going on for a few years and no one apparently sees the harm.

We thank the good Father above that we don't live as "pleasantly." In our opinion, there must be more than "heels" in Pleasant Hill, South Carolina!

We won't find us there no time soon!

Maxton Oil & Fertilizer Company was awarded permission to continue operations by Judge Henry Barnette, Jr. of Raleigh. MOFC has consistently been less than a "good business neighbor" in Maxton. Over the years the town of Maxton has sought to force MOFC to comply to environmental standards. The long range battle over air and water quality has been set back by Judge Barnette's ruling, in our opinion. But, we must remember that Judge Barnette does not live in Maxton and therefore is not subject to the noxious fumes which have been coming from Maxton Oil & Fertilizer for around twenty years.

We sympathize with our neighbors in Maxton. For those who do not realize the importance of good corporate neighbors, we suggest a visit to Maxton, North Carolina. In our opinion, MOFC should be closed until the company lives up to current environmental standards. We would suggest to the MOFC President, McNair Evans, that he should move in front of his plant and see how long he could and would tolerate the smell! Contrary to the company's public statements regarding their improved performance in air quality, we ask you to visit Maxton, North Carolina and simply breathe. Public statements cannot withstand the evidence and sensitivity of the average nose!

Shame on you Maxton Oil & Fertilizer Company! Shame on you Judge Henry Barnette, Jr. of RALEIGH!

**CORRECTION**  
In recent issues of the Carolina Indian Voice, the price for fishing permits for the Old Wade Tyner Pond were listed incorrectly. The CORRECT price for fishing permits is \$50 per person under 65 years of age and \$25 per person 65 and over. We apologize for this error and any inconvenience it caused.

### ATTENTION FISHERMEN

Fishing rights are now being sold for the Old Wade Tyner Pond at Road Runner Shell Station in Pembroke, across from the Police Station. Phone 521-9110.

Permits are \$50 per person under 65 years of age and \$25 per person 65 and over. Permits are valid from March 15, 1989-November 30, 1989 and are non-transferable.

There is room for 2,000 fishermen. Unauthorized persons will be prosecuted in a court of law.

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**TAX TIPS**

**Claiming Dependents on Separate Returns**

Married parents in community property states who plan to file separate returns should be aware that neither parent may be able to claim an exemption for a dependent child. Where all of the couple's income is considered community income, each parent on a separate return is treated as having provided exactly one half of the child's support, regardless of who actually paid the support. Since neither parent has provided more than one half of the support, neither can claim the child as a dependent.

To avoid this result, parents whose sole income is community income and who want to file separately should consider signing a multiple support agreement, Form 2120, designating which parent may claim the exemption.

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