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Bush issues proclamation designating 1992 as the Year of the American Indian

President Bush issued the following proclamation March 2, designating 1992 as the Year of the American Indian.

Half a millennium ago, when European explorers amazed their compatriots with stories of a New World, what they actually described was a land that had long been home to America's native peoples. In the Northeast part of this country and along the Northwest coast, generations of tribes fished and hunted; others farmed the rich soils of the Southeast and Great Plains, while nomadic tribes roamed and foraged across the Great Basin. In the arid Southwest, native peoples irrigated the desert, cultivating what land they could. Each tribe formed a thriving community with its own customs, traditions, and system of social order.

The contributions that Native Americans have made to our Nation's history and culture are as numerous and varied as the tribes themselves. Over the years, they have added to their ancient wealth of art and folklore a rich legacy of service and achievement. Today we gratefully recall Native Americans who helped the early European settlers to survive in a strange new land; we salute the Navajo Code Talkers of World War II and all those Native Americans who have distinguished themselves in service to our country; and we remember those men and women of Indian descent—such as the great athlete, Jim Thorpe and our 31st Vice President, Charles Curtis—who have installed pride in others by reaching the heights of their respective fields. We also celebrate, with special admiration and gratitude, another enduring legacy of Native Americans: their close attachment to the land and

the exemplary stewardship of its natural resources. In virtually every realm of our national life, the contributions of America's original inhabitants and their descendants continue.

During 1992, we will honor this country's native peoples as vital participants in the history of the United States. This year gives us the opportunity to recognize the special place that Native Americans hold in our society, to affirm the right of Indian tribes to exist as sovereign entities, and to seek great mutual understanding and trust. Therefore, we gratefully salute all American Indians, expressing our support for tribal self-determination and assisting with efforts to celebrate and preserve each tribe's unique cultural heritage.

The Congress, by Public Law 102-188, has designated as the "Year of the American Indian" and has authorized and requested the President to issue a proclamation in observance of this year.

Now, therefore, I George Bush, President of the United States of America, do hereby proclaim 1992 as the Year of the American Indian. I encourage Federal, State and local government officials, interested groups and organizations, and the people of the United States to observe this year with appropriate programs, ceremonies and activities.

In witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand this second day of March, in the year of our Lord nineteen hundred and ninety-two, and of the Independence of the United States of America the two hundred and sixteenth.

Democratic Party convention scheduled

JoAnn Locklear, Chairperson for the Robeson County Democratic Party has announced that the County Convention will be held on April 4, 1992, at 10:00 a.m. The convention will be held at the Robeson County Courthouse in Courtroom #1.

Heading the convention's agenda will be the selection of delegates to the state and congressional district conventions. The delegates will also be electing members to represent Robeson County on various District Executive Committees.

"The County Convention is also the second in a series of steps that will elect delegates to the Democratic

National Convention which will be held July 13-16, 1992. The delegates selected to the Congressional District Conventions and the State Convention will elect North Carolina's delegation to the National Convention," Chairwoman Locklear said. She is also pleased to announce that Dr. Joseph Oxendine, Chancellor of Pembroke State University, will be the keynote speaker at the convention.

"We are expecting a good turnout of Democrats across the County to be in attendance and look forward to a great year ahead for the Robeson County Democratic Party."

Native artists will answer: What happens after 1992?

WHAT HAPPENS AFTER 1992?

The American Indian Community House Gallery, 708 Broadway, 2nd Floor, New York City, is proud to present six distinguished Native American artists, who are using their work to answer the most asked question in Native America today: "What happens after 1992?"

After being bombarded with questions and opinions about the 500th anniversary of the arrival of Columbus in the Western Hemisphere, and what is being done to commemorate it (or decommemorate it, as the case may be) Native American artists find themselves faced with a full year of the same hollowness that they feel annually around Thanksgiving. Their input is solicited and then rejected, they are asked to participate but not to think or feel, and when it is all over they are expected to drift back to wherever it was they came from, until they are dusted off for the next pageant or parade.

The reactions to the 1992 anniversary have been many, but the question that remains is whether the interest and high-minded actions of the non-Native population signify the beginnings of lasting change in their attitudes toward Native people and art, or if, as many suspect, it is just a fad, a fly-by-night expression of superficial guilt that will be denied again when the issues involved are no longer right in front of society's face.

The artists included in the program, Pablita Abeyta (Navajo), Norris Choe (Navajo), Aaron Ervin (White Mountain Apache), Mary McKamey (Paiute, Blackfoot, Apache), Ryan Rice (Mohawk), and Lillian Timbres (Apache), have created the work in this show for a long term effort. 1992 is often called a new beginning *What Happens After 1992?* if proof positive that it will not be the end.

Community Briefs

REVIVAL PLANNED APRIL 5-10

There will be a Spring Revival April 5-10 at the Mission Church, Route 1, Pembroke. Services will begin at 7 p.m. Sunday and 7:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Scheduled speakers are Rev. Truman Oxendine and Rev. Terry Locklear. The pastor is the Rev. Crites Oxendine. The public is cordially invited to attend these services.

UNION CHAPEL SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION PLANNED

All children who will be five years of age on or before October 16, 1992 needs to register April 8, 1992 between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. at Union Chapel School. Please bring a certified birth certificate, completed immunization record and social security card for the child. For further information contact Union Chapel School at 521-4456.

Our Men In Uniform

SHAWN D. WILKINS

Marine Pvt. Shawn D. Wilkins, son of Spencer Wilkins of 13 Stable Place, Raeford, NC recently completed recruit training.

During the training cycle at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, recruits are taught the basics of battlefield survival, introduced to typical military daily routine, and personal and professional standards.

All recruits participate in an active physical conditioning program and gain proficiency in a variety of military skills including first aid, rifle marksmanship and close-order drill. Teamwork and self-discipline are emphasized throughout the cycle.

The 1991 graduate of Saint Peter High School, St. Peter, MN, joined the Marine Corps in November 1991.

J. DAVID O. REVELS

Marine Pfc. J. David O. Revels, son of Mr. and Mrs. J.D. Revels Jr. of Route 1, St. Pauls recently reported for duty with Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station, Yuma, AZ.

The 1990 graduate of St. Pauls High School joined

Marine Corps in May 1991.

CHRISTOPHER D. HUNT

Marine Lance Cpl. Christopher D. Hunt, son of Garfield Hunt Jr. and Connie R. Helgren, both of Lumberton, NC recently reported for duty at Marine Barracks, Washington, DC

He joins the Marine Corps in May 1991.

JACKIE LOCKLEAR

Marine Pvt. Jackie Locklear, son of Betty and Charlie Locklear Jr. of Raeford recently completed recruit training.

During the training cycle at Marine Corps Recruit Depot, Parris Island, SC, recruits are taught the basics of battlefield survival, introduced to typical military daily routine, and personal and professional standards.

All recruits participate in an active physical conditioning program and gain proficiency in a variety of military skills including first aid, rifle marksmanship, and close-order drill. Teamwork and self-discipline are emphasized throughout the cycle.

He is a 1991 graduate of Purnell Swett High School, Pembroke.

3RD ANNUAL PSU GOSPEL MUSIC FESTIVAL SCHEDULED APRIL 25

(This is the first in a series of articles about groups who will be performing in the third annual Pembroke State University "Gospel Music Festival" Saturday, April 25, at 7 p.m. in PSU's Performing Arts Center.)

BY GENE WARREN

The McKameys are coming to Pembroke State University to be part of the third annual PSU "Gospel Music Festival" Saturday, April 25, in the Performing Arts Center.

The performance begins at 7 p.m. with a pre-concert at 6:45 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for everyone and can be ordered by calling the PAC box office at 521-0778 (local residents) or 1-800-367-0778 (long distance).

The McKameys mean the best in gospel music—a group of national stature. Hailing from Clinton, Tenn., about 18 miles north of Knoxville, this group of three women and a man has had four No. 1 songs in the nation, according to The Singing News charts.

In the Gospel Voice Magazine "Fans' Awards," they were nominated for "Favorite Group," "Favorite Female Vocalist," "Favorite Song," and "Single of the Year."

The Music City News Awards nominated them for "Group of the Year."

Peg McKamey Bean, the lead singer, has been named "Favorite Female Vocalist" for 1989, 1990 and 1991 by The Singing News fans.

The group's song, "God on the Mountain," was named "Song of the Year" for 1989, also by The Singing News fans. Their rendition of "God Will Make This Trail a Blessing" was chosen "Single of the Year for 1991" by the Gospel Voice Magazine "Fans' Awards."

According to the committee which is planning the festival, The McKameys packed Lumberton Senior High School's auditorium for a performance last year. "It was standing room only," commented one committee member.

The McKameys have been singing together 36 years and consist of the following: Peg McKamey Bean, the lead singer and one of the most honored gospel singers in America; Ruben Bean, Peg's husband who sings bass and is the group's manager; Carol McKamey Woodard, Peg's younger sister who sings alto and sometimes the lead; and Connie Bean Powell, daughter of Peg and Ruben who sings soprano.

Besides singing the lead, Peg McKamey Bean sometimes sings alto and is the one who listens to material for possible recordings.



The McKameys

Connie Bean Powell manages The McKameys publishing company and helps in the office with her father and their secretary. Connie has also written a biography of the group entitled, "Not Afraid To Be Real."

For more information about the PSU Gospel Music Festival, telephone (919)521-4214, Ext. 213.

Tickets are also being sold at the following places: PEMBROKE—Burnt Swamp Baptist Association, Lumber River Christian Supplies; LUMBERTON—Christian Book Store, Merrimac Music; RED SPRINGS—Red Springs Barber Shop; LAURINBURG—The Gospel Music Store; and FAYETTEVILLE—Cumberland County Association for Indian People.

Students attend Conference of Native Americans & the Early Republic



PSU students majoring in American Indian Studies are shown during their visit with Congressman Charlie Rose during a visit to the nation's capital during the spring vacation. They were attending a Conference on Native Americans and the Early Republic. Left to right, the

above are Professor Linda Oxendine, chairperson of PSU's American Indian Studies Department; Kay Brewington, Pam Locklear, Barbara Lowry, Jeff Currie, Congressman Rose, Melanie Locklear, Gary Jacobs and Ben Turner.

Six PSU students majoring in American Indian Studies attended during spring vacation a Conference on Native Americans and the Early Republic in Washington, D.C.

While there, they also visited both Sen. Terry Sanford and Congressman Charlie Rose. They also toured the Smithsonian Institution.

Accompanied by Linda Oxendine, chairperson of PSU's American Indian Studies Department, the students going were: Kay Brewington, Clinton; Jeff Currie, Wendell; Gary Jacobs, Rowland; Pam Locklear, Pembroke; Barbara

Lowry, Pembroke; and Ben Turner, Fayetteville.

The conference was sponsored by the Capitol Historical Society and the Newberry Library.

Scholars of American Indian history who presented papers included James Merrell, Theda Perdue, and Richard White.

While in the nation's capital, the students were guests of the families of w.j. and Barbara Strickland and Kate Rinzier.

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