

Say you read it in
the Carolina Indian Voice

Readers' Forum

Lumbee Constitutional Committee Receives Thanks From Reader

I would like to thank the Lumbee Constitutional Committee for an outstanding job during the public forum held at Purnell Swett High School on April 21, 1994. It was held in a very professional manner. I am sure everyone there would agree that the major details on the Constitution were covered and questions concerning specific issues were answered. I was impressed that everyone in attendance, whether for or against this Constitution, was able to listen and then debate in level headed fashion.

During the four years I lived and worked in Oklahoma, I had the opportunity to observe tribal Constitutions and Governments first hand. In fact, the last two years in Oklahoma, I was an employee of Choctaw Indian Nation and lived on tribal land, so tribal law directly affected me and my family daily.

There were several things I learned during that time. First, a tribes right to self government is an awesome one and should not be taken lightly. Second, the Constitution must be detailed enough to cover all aspects that it applies to and yet be understandable to the common people it affects. Thirdly, the true power of self government lies in the wishes of the people as a whole, not in one person or a few individuals. To be less than this is to create a dictatorship, which leads to division and strife. Fourthly, that we as Native Americans in this part of the country have long been overdue in our effort to control our own destiny and better tend to the issues that affect our people; this effort in forming a constitution and educating the people about it is definitely a step in the right direction.

While I am a big supporter of federal recognition for our people, I

feel we cannot sit and wait until a decision is made on that matter. I feel this overdue recognition will come in time, but we must be diligent in the meantime to show our own people as well as other Indian people that we are truly concerned about the welfare of our members. It is time for us to take our own place along side other self governing Indian nations who have proven it can be done, and done well.

Again, congratulations to the Constitution committee for their hard work and to JoAnn Lowery, Ruth Locklear, and Cynthia Hunt for the outstanding presentation at the Pembroke Public Forum. I, and many others, support your efforts.

Sincerely,
Joseph T. Bell, M.D.
Pembroke, NC

Discusses Healthy Heart

The recent death of NBA Celtics star Reggie Lewis has sparked an interest into what constitutes a healthy heart. Unfortunately, maybe now there will be more research as to what makes the heart beat properly whether heart disease is present or not.

Millions of people suffer from benign palpitations and the like. The symptoms - an uncontrollable twitching sensation, much like a muscle spasm in your arm or leg, and dizziness - are very frightening. Ironically, many physicians call this a "human condition" because there is no heart disease and, in turn, they send their patients home telling them not to worry. But, how do you not worry?

I'm currently in the process of setting up support groups via telephone on a national level. However, because of my age (29) I've been questioned about my credentials. I tell these people that I have more than eight years experience living with this condition and that I've written a book on the subject. This satisfies their curiosity every time!

If you would like to talk with someone in your city or town about this problem - no telephone charges will be incurred this way - just mail your name, address and telephone number with a self-addressed stamped envelope to: Peter John Raposa, P.O. Box 556, Tiverton, RI. 02878. And, I'll be in contact with you.

Peter John Raposa
P.O. Box 556
Tiverton, RI 02878

Like Father, Like Son



CHOOSE
TRADITION
NOT ADDICTION

Know the consequences of
alcohol and drug abuse

United We Stand; Divided We Fall

Dear Miss Connee and Staff,

For weeks now I have been reading about all of the controversy about the LRDA and the council adopting the Tribal Constitution. Enough is enough of our people bickering among themselves. This has been going on as long as I can remember. I will be 60 years old in May so ever since I was a little boy there has been someone preying on our people with about every way they could to make fools out of us.

Yes I remember the blood testing in the Brooks settlement West of Harpers Ferry. I was to young to get tested, but I tell you this my mother and my relatives helped build the Long house. I danced in it a many of times. I put on Indian dances while in the scouts at Harpers Ferry Troop 83 (Defunct) in the early 50's. Until the late 40's there was one after another screaming on how to take our people to the cleaners so to speak. I have

visited Indian reservations in the North, West and talked to Indians in the South (Florida).

I remember my relatives and Uncles visiting Cherokee as a young boy. They did not want to recognize us there because we claimed we were part Cherokee. People are more educated now but we are still having the same thing happen to us. I would love to see the people as a whole unite and win the battle so we can give our children and grandchildren something to be very proud of. Can't our people realize that there are others sitting back laughing at us making fools of ourselves and in the end is we can't get on one accord we will be the laughing stock of Robeson County.

Unite People and let's accomplish the goal our foreparents started many moons ago. United we stand, divided we FALL!!!

Ervin (Little Smoke) Jacobs.

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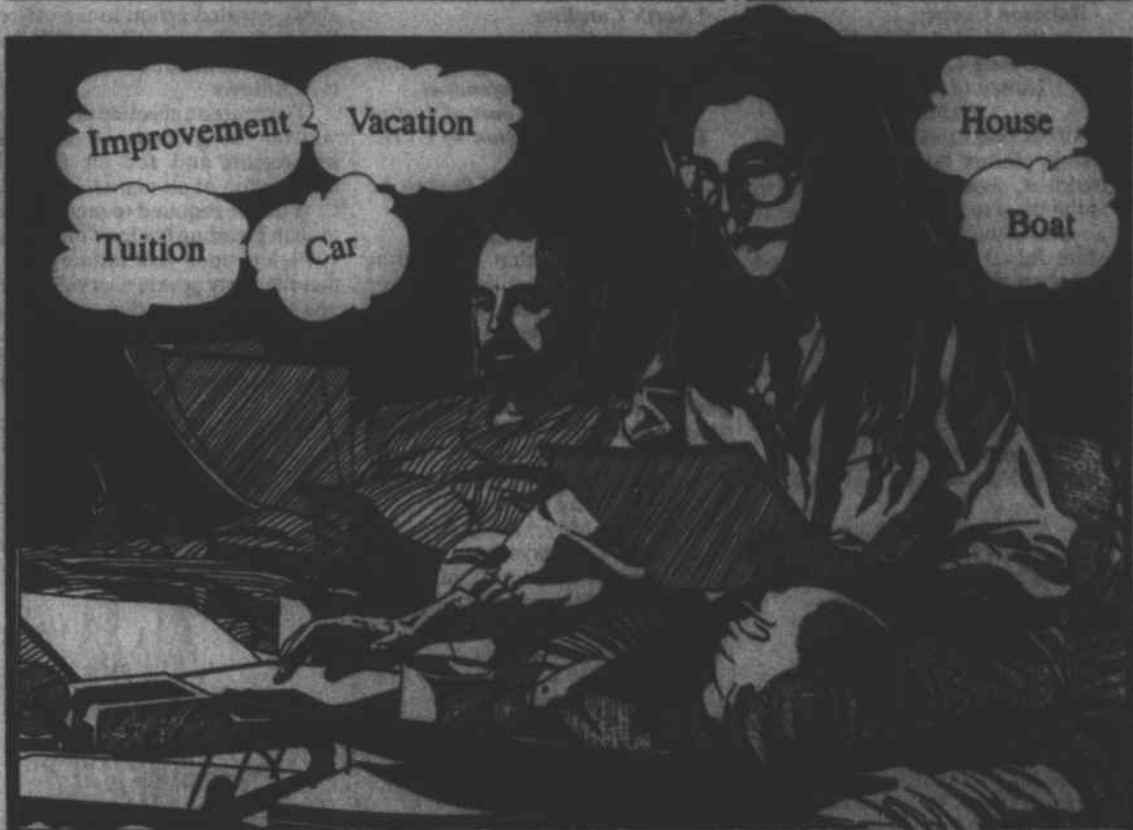
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When You Vote for Clerk of Superior Court on May 3rd, ask yourself these 3 questions:

1. Which candidate is proud not to be endorsed by certain legal professionals with vested interests or any other self-interest groups?
2. Which candidate has served all citizens of Robeson County fairly and impartially for three decades and will continue to do so when elected?
3. Which candidate has the courage and backbone to do the right thing?

Answer

The candidate seeking the endorsement of
the people, not special interest groups.

MARTIN McCALL

CLERK OF SUPERIOR COURT



PAID FOR BY COMMITTEE TO ELECT MARTIN McCALL

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Attorneys & Counselors At Law

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Candidate for District Attorney

Sunday May 1st

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Paid for by the Committee to Elect Johnson Britt