

ALONG THE ROBESON TRAIL

by Dr. Stan Knick, Director
PSU Native American Resource Center

Storytelling has always been an important element of Native American culture. In the long centuries before writing, the people of traditional cultures passed on their histories, religious beliefs and sense of humor through the telling and re-telling of stories. One of the main functions of stories was instruction — telling younger or inexperienced members of the group how they ought to behave, and especially how they ought to act toward other members of the group.

Now that there are so many human beings on the planet, it is good that there is a way to pass the stories around among larger numbers of people — through writing. In this manner, people who live a long way from the storyteller can also reap some of the benefit of the storyteller's experience. Of course reading a story is not exactly the same as hearing one.

The great Chippewa writer Gerald Vizenor has one of his characters, Bageese, tell us: "...that tribal stories must be told not recorded, told to listeners but not readers, and she insisted that stories be heard through the ear not the eye (from *Dead Voices*)." But reading a good story

that is written in the manner of an oral tradition is the next best thing. And maybe after each new person reads it, he or she tells it to someone else, and it becomes a "real" story again.

An excellent example of such a written story that comes from a long-told story can be found in the recent book *Two Old Women*. It was written by Velma Wallis, a Gwich'in Indian from Alaska, who got it from her mother, who got it from her elders, who had passed it down for many generations. Ms. Wallis says she decided to write it down because "...it not only taught me a lesson I could use in my life, but also because it was a story about my people and my past — something about me that I could grasp and call mine. Stories are gifts given by an elder to a younger person. Unfortunately, this gift is not given, nor received, as often today because many of our youth are occupied by television and the fast pace of modern-day living. Maybe tomorrow a few of today's generation who were sensitive enough to have listened to their elders' wisdom will have the traditional word-of-mouth stories living within their memory.

Perhaps tomorrow's generation also will yearn for stories such as this so that they may better understand their past, their people and hopefully, themselves."

The story is about two elder women who learn a vital lesson late in their lives, and who are able to teach that lesson to their people. Ms. Wallis says: "This story told me that there is no limit to one's ability — certainly not age — to accomplish in life what one must. Within each individual on this large and complicated world there lives an astounding potential of greatness. Yet it is rare that these hidden gifts are brought to life unless by the chance of fate."

To avoid giving the plot of the story away I won't say any more except that this is one of the best-told and most heartening stories I have seen in a long time. Any good book store should be able to order it for you (1993; HarperPerennial Publishers; \$9 in paperback). Maybe after you read it, you'll want to tell it to a friend.

For more information, visit the Native American Resource Center in Old Main Building, on the campus of Pembroke State University.

Prospect School Honor Roll

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Eighth Grade "A" Crystal Bullard, Brandon Emanuel, Jessica Lambert, Tyler Thompson. "B" Melissa Blue, Jessica Bryant, Irion Blake Bullard, Tonya Chavis, Cecelia Cummings, Porsha Dial, Bobby Freeman, Katers Harris, Todd Harris, Cathy Hunt, Michael Hunt, Reginald Jacobs, Serena Jones, Beth Lane, Alex Locklear, Conchata Locklear, Constance Locklear, Damien Locklear, John Locklear Jr., Kristin Locklear, Phillip Locklear, Tere Locklear, Misha R. Melvin, Christy L. Oxendine, Melissa D. Revels, Roy Revels, Bryn Sanderson, Melissa Strickland.

Seventh Grade Superintendent Honor Roll: Carmen Deese, Amber Locklear. "A" Honor Roll: Deanna Bullard, Darnette Chavis, Matthew Emanuel, Joseph Epps, Jonathan Jacobs, Cherella Jones, Jadelyn Locklear, Priscilla Locklear, Renato Locklear, Shennen Locklear, Derrick Maynor, Ginger Moody, Clifton Oxendine, Shannon Oxendine, Amiria Thompson. Seventh Grade "B" Honor Roll: Matthew Blue, Amanda Bullard, Charles Bullard, Jackie Bullard, Kimberly Bullard, Lathan Bullard, Kimberly Chavis, Richard Chavis, Roy Chavis, Terry Chavis, Travis Collins, Willie Mac Cook, Brent Deese, DeAngela

Esquibel, Clarissa Jones, Barbara Locklear, Christopher Locklear, Dana Locklear, David Locklear, Donna Locklear, Evangelina Locklear, Ezra Locklear, Jessica Locklear, Juliet Locklear, Miranda Locklear, Natalie Locklear, Ryan Locklear, Sheena Locklear, Stephanie Locklear, Tanya Locklear, Frankie Maynor, Crystal McGirt, Danielle McMillian, Rebecca Oxendine, Shannon Oxendine, Chad Rachels, Jocelyn Sanderson, Roshawna Sencenbaugh, Kent Smith, Jessica Woods.

Sixth Grade Superintendent's Honor Roll: Amber Maynor. "A" Honor Roll: Courtney Beasley, Telisa Givins, Sandy Jacobs, Branda Locklear, Ashley Newton, Kimberly Oxendine. "B" Honor Roll: James Riello, Abigail Barton, Barbara Barton, Charlene Barton, Chanda Brooks, Jeremiah Bryant, Chavils Bullard, Derrick Bullard, Jillena Bullard, Adrian Chavis, Desiree Chavis, Kayla Chavis, Betty Clark, Heather Epps, Jamie Flanagan, Lewis Fulmer, Jason Hammond, Mary Henderson, Bobbie Jo Hunt, Donavon Hunt, Patrick Hunt, Lynette Jones, Beth Locklear, Chase Locklear, James H. Locklear III, Joshua Locklear, Stephen Locklear, Miranda Lowery, Leonard Oxendine, Michael Ransom, Deidre Revels, Telina Roger, Justin Strickland.

PSHS Student Government Sponsors Meal for Senior Citizens

PSHS student government sponsored a delicious meal for senior citizens November 21 in the school cafeteria. Principal Bill Brewington gave a warm, welcome. Shannon Chavis, acting as co-ordinator of the program, organized the program to include various kinds of entertainment. The Mt. Airy Youth Choir and trio sang. Chad Scott, Shane Baker, Cody Godwin, and Scotty Locklear sang and performed, Jessica Locklear sang, and the class of 1910 of Prospect

performed a skit as music minister. Harold Jacobs played the piano.

Several gifts were given the lucky winners which included six gift certificates from Shell's, Ten T-Shirts, a Tray, Mugs, and a \$20.00 gift certificate.

President of the student government, Shelli Brewington, closed the program expressing her gratitude to those who attended and towards the success of the program. The student government is directed by Mr. Al Parnell.

Carnell Locklear To Perform At Players Club



There will be a plate sale Saturday, December 10, 1994 from 10:00 a.m. until. Plates are priced at \$4.00 and there will be Chicken and Bar-B-Que for sale. The sale is provided to help Singer Carnell Locklear advance his singing career. Locklear will also perform at the sale. Also he will appear at the Players Club in Lumberton, NC on Friday, December 16, 1994 from 9:30 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. Everyone is cordially invited to attend. Admission will be \$5.00 at the Door.

Swett High Band Finishes Exciting Season

The Purnell Swett High School Band finished an exciting 1993-94 season and we feel it has been the start of many more wonderful things to come. We have been working since August on this year's Marching Show and things are moving along nicely. We hope that our path will be one of continuous progress and a bright future. We are striving to build a program in which our students, parents, school and community build a program in which our students, parents, school and community can have pride in. This brings me to the purpose of this letter. The Band at this point has many needs which we are financially unable to meet. With such needs as an outstanding uniform debt, lack of instruments, lack of music and lack of funds for travel, instructors, and repairs, we are coming to you the local business and community organizations asking for any contributions or

sponsorship for our Band. We are constantly growing in quantity and the quality of Band students is generally that which future leaders are made of. We are asking you to help the community by helping us to grow and achieve higher goals. Any contributions will be gladly welcomed and can be made to the Purnell Swett High School Band Booster Club. We gladly welcome any type of support whether it be monetary, joining our Booster Club Organization or just a kind word of encouragement to the Band student.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Any further information needed can be obtained by calling Alan Bethea at Purnell Swett High School at 910-521-3253, or write to Purnell Swett High School Band Booster, P.O. Box 1210, Pembroke, NC 28372.

Carter Honored for Volunteer Work at Carolina Manor

The alumni association of Carolina Manor Treatment Center has named Bonnie Carter the 1994 recipient of its annual Friend of Carolina Manor Award. Carter has served as a volunteer at the Center since 1991.

According to Beverly Wesley, the Center's director, the Friend of Carolina Manor award is presented each year to the person who has been most instrumental in helping the Center and its alumni association in their efforts to treat and support persons recovering from alcoholism and other addictions.

Carter and her husband live in Lumberton and are active in the Union Baptist Church. They have four children and nine grandchildren.

Carolina Manor is a 26-bed residential facility for treating chemical dependency problems. It was opened in 1985 by Southeastern Regional Medical Center.

The Carolina Indian Voice



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Voice!



Pediatric Pointers

By JOSEPH T. BELL, MD

After dealing the timely subject of allergies, I thought it would be appropriate to briefly discuss a skin rash related to allergies called eczema. My daughter has this condition so I deal with it at home as well as in my Pediatric clinic.

Dry skin eczema is a scaly, bumpy, sometimes red, sometimes flesh colored rash that tends to come and go. It may occur anywhere on the body, but seems to occur most often around the elbows and knees. Since it occasionally appears in red round circles, it is often mistaken for ringworm. While it is itchy like ringworm, remember that ringworm is caused by a fungus, while eczema is not.

There are certain things that cause eczema to flare up. In the winter time, with dry heat inside and low humidity outside, our skin tends to dry out some. This increased dryness can worsen eczema. Harsh soaps and detergents, as well as wool fabric, can cause this rash to flare. And remember, since eczema is related to allergies, certain ingested or inhaled allergens can set this rash off.

How do you control eczema? Good question! Use preventive measures to help keep the rash from flaring up.

Use mild soaps such as Dove or Aveeno, and avoid wool fabric on the skin. Use a humidifier in the house in the winter time to add moisture inside. Hypoallergenic moisturizers like Eucerin or Kerilotion help replace lost moisture in the skin. When there is a flare up, you can use oral or topical antihistamines such as Benadryl to take away some of the itching and inflammation. Topical hydrocortisone (Cortaid) does a good job also, but avoid using it for long periods of time on the face. Ultraviolet rays, like sunlight, help improve eczema. Only occasionally does eczema require special treatment. In bad cases, your doctor may prescribe strong antihistamines or steroids to combat the problem.

Let's end on a good note. When kids develop eczema early in childhood, like my daughter, there is a good chance they will outgrow the disorder as they get older. So do the simple things to keep the skin moisturized and use the easy remedies to treat the flare ups.

Thanks for tuning in. Send your questions in and we'll take again next week!

Richardson Named Chief District Court Judge

Chief Justice James G. Exum, Jr. of the State Supreme Court announced the appointment of District Court Judge Herbert L. Richardson as Chief District Court Judge in Judicial District 16B in Robeson County. Judge Richardson will succeed Chief District Court Judge Charles G. McLean, who is retiring this month. Both judges live in Lumberton.

The Chief Justice expresses confidence that Judge Richardson is "well qualified by experience and temperament to carry out his new responsibilities in an equitable and efficient manner."

Administrative duties of Chief District Court Judges include arranging court schedules, assigning judges to court terms, overseeing the calendaring of non criminal matters, and supervising the district's magistrates.

Judge Richardson, 42, has been on the District Court bench since August 1979. He is Black. Before going on the bench, he was in the private practice in law in Durham in 1976-78 and served as an assistant district attorney in Robeson County in 1978-79.

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