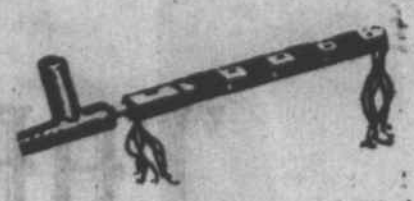


Editorial and Opinion Page



Elders & Traditionalist News

Many Helped to Make Spiritual Gathering Successful

First off, a few comments on the Lumbee Tribal Elders Gathering. It was a great time in the spirit of the Creator to have so many people come together to socialize, eat, pray, and learn for 4 nights and 5 days. The Elders spent many hours over the period under the arbor talking with each other and trying to aid in solving many of the problems that hang in the minds of so many of the people. Some of the problems were serious and desperately needed to be talked out. Others that were not so serious, involved more on the learning level. Surprisingly, not to many children were present and even more surprisingly was that few came to us to learn from us or even talk to us. The purpose of these gatherings are primarily for the children to learn from the Elders. There is a world's worth of traditional education to be passed on to the children. We are getting older and feel the need to pass on what we know, so that it will not be lost again. It has been a serious struggle to keep alive what we have, to impart the importance to others and it needs to be given. There is nothing more important for the Lumbee People as a whole, happening at the time that these gatherings are going on. It makes me wonder what has to be done to get a larger turn out. We have people that travel 15 to 18 hours to come and do the weekend the way things are supposed to be done. It is strange to me that very few members of either of the Lumbee Administrations came and spent much time. Doreen Sampson, Gary Wayne Locklear, and his family came. Thank you! Doreen even worked with the cooking crew a couple of days. Most of the Lumbees that showed up did something to help, which is the way things got done in the old times. Even Mrs. Connie peeled potatoes one day. The Elders have much thanks to give to the Southeastern Cherokee Conference. Once again this year, they came to us volunteering their time and jumped in with both feet to aid us in

monetary donations, food, and labor. They did an outstanding job. As a group, they have many of the traditional values so necessary to survive as "Indians in a dominant society." Title V IEA was well represented and their help has proven to be invaluable. A big "Thank You" to IEA and their leaders, Dr. Donald Locklear and Maybelle Elk, along with Hayes Alan Locklear and Gail Chavis. We used 290 tickets for meals "paid for" by donated food. Some of the food and all of the clothes were taken to the Robeson Church and Community Center. Food packs were also given to some needy Lumbee elderly people. We believe we have done the best we could do, with what we had. Hope next year there will be much more to do. The Tuesday after the gathering we got good news. Our incorporation paper was received. Many thanks to Lumbee River Legal Services and Ms. Cynthia Hunt. She has given many hours so far and promises more. Thank You! Thanks also goes out to James Hardin, the LRDA, Ernie Boulhant and the "Cultural Center". Thanks to the Elders that came and worked, especially Spotted Turtle, Ms. Pauline Locklear and Ms. Caroline Coronado. All of their help was greatly appreciated. Mr. Fuller also spent a lot of time there and was very interesting to listen to, whenever I had time. It was great to see Pastor Don Bullard from the Salem Missionary Baptist Church, along with his grandchildren. He spent the day with us and enjoyed the ceremonies, food, and the fellowship with the group. After I talked with him, he felt there was no conflict between us about religious beliefs. I was real glad to hear that, especially from a Baptist Minister. There had been some talk to find out what kept the people away. One

reason was the conflict with the Christian Community. There is no conflict. We all believe in the "Supreme Being". We call him Creator. He always was the Creator, even 15,000 years ago. Some told us that free food would bring them out of the woodwork, not so. We have not charged one cent for anything at any of our gatherings. In fact, we advertise, "Leave your wallet home, nothing to buy and nothing to sell!" What else can we do? We are honestly looking for an answer. If you have any ideas you are welcome at any meeting, mail or call and tell us your ideas. Along the same line we are still looking for interested individuals or couples to be a part of the gathering. We are an absolutely non-political, voluntary non-profit incorporated group of people seeking to keep alive and educate our people of the great heritage and cultural history of the Lumbee people, all of the Lumbee people. To aid in opening opportunities for children from age 0-18 years and people from 40 and up with a special emphasis on children and the needy elderly. Knowing the pride of our people does not allow them to ask for help. We propose to trade off to the elderly, so it cannot be construed as charity. We would like to be able to pass these experiences on to the children. In this frame, we need the Lumbee Tribal Council districts to promote at least 2 elders, over the age of 50, to the Elders Council. We feel that the people from each district know best what is happening and who we can use to aid us in what we will do. With so many districts over such a wide area we cannot know what is going on. More soon. **The Wild Turkey Lumbee Elders Council PO Box 3068, Pembroke, NC 28372 (910) 521-3002.**

Readers' Forum A response to Ronald Locklear

I read an article in the Robesonian dated July 2, 1995. The Guessing Thought of Ronald Locklear and His Question. Ronald Locklear, as I hold my pen to ease your inquiring mind, my heart is filled with joy. The reason The Honorable Frances McArthur Cummings did not change her Political Party affiliation officially before she did was because it was not necessary to do so. During 1994, before the General Elections, Rep. Cummings placed an ad in the newspaper stating she was not seeking Re-election as a Democrat. Rep. Cummings disagreed with the Robeson Democratic Party's Political strategies. Rep. Cummings is an Elected State Representative for all people, not only who call themselves Democrats. Rep. Cummings affiliation with the Democratic Party or the Republican Party, did not give her the wisdom and understanding that she possesses. Wherever Frances travels, her Mind-Power is Active. Ronald, you should know that people competing against the name of a Political Party have a Brain disorder. Being a member of a political party cannot guarantee the candidate is qualified to revise and write new State Laws for a Happier Tomorrow. Just as the Straight Ticket Voting, that method is to elect only the candidate of a Political Party. You can therefore elect an Honest, Loyal, and Qualified candidate together with the dishonest, disloyal, and unqualified candidate as electing the wheat with the tares.

Ronald Locklear, please! whenever you do believe is more Loyal, Honest, and can be more successful than Our State Representative Frances Cummings, encourage that person to file his or her name at the Board of Elections. For General Elections 1996, Rep. Frances Cummings will not be paying drivers to carry voters to the precincts. Each voter, who re-elects Frances will be providing his/her own transportation and will be a proud, independent voter. Ronald, in 1994, Rep. Cummings was unopposed, and I am eagerly awaiting to know who has the courage to stand the TEST and PASS the EXAMINATION to challenge Rep. Cummings for her Seat #63 in the NC House of Representatives. What about you Ronald Locklear? Maybe you can file your name at the Board of Elections. By the Power of Almighty God, Our State Representatives shall look forward to the Future Span of Life to fulfill that which was long desired to be accomplished. When all Blessed Minds are in oneness of the "Christ Spirit", there can be no failure, only SUCCESS. Ronald, 1996 General Elections, let us see if your prediction is right. Our State Representative Frances McArthur Cummings is as a Heavenly Soldier marching onward with a smile on her face on Earth's Political Battlefield. Peace Be Unto You, AMEN. **Yvonne Maria Leow**

Native American Health Concerns

There are currently some 40,000 people enrolled as Lumbee Indians. We have got an ongoing issue on who should be the tribe's government body. Frankly, I think LRDA has too many programs going on at the same time. The Lumbee Tribal Council should devote more time to govern the tribe. I agree with Greg Richardson, Executive Director of the NC Commission of Indian Affairs in Raleigh, that the matter has taken too much time away from issues that the commission needs to be dealing with. Mr. Hardin, Director of LRDA and Dalton Brooks, Chairman of Lumbee Tribal Council, should unite on the HIV (Aids) issue in the Native American Community. In the 25,000 cases of reported HIV cases in North Carolina, I bet we have our share here in the Native American Community. It is a very taboo conversation here in Robeson County, especially among the Indian people, but we have to face it, it is here. Individuals know the ramifications of coming out of the closet and the ignorance of not knowing how it is transmitted. Thinking it will jump on you and last, is not as bad as being exiled from your family and friends. Just the thought of this frightens a person into not being tested if they are at the risk of causing the individual to give heed to the wind. LRDA and the Lumbee Tribal Council should be working on getting the individuals at risk tested to prevent the spreading of this disease. If something is not done about this within five years, it will be out of control. Joan Plotnick, of the NC Aids Housing Program, said that 44% of all respondents listed that they needed housing. There was no way to determine how many of these were Native American Indians. We have got to work together to make changes. God Bless You!

Shares experiences at a Spiritual Gathering

by John Marshall
June 16-17, 1995:
My son, Matthew (Looks Like His Father), and I traveled to the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center in Pembroke, North Carolina for our first experience in a Native American Spiritual Gathering. Looks Like His Father carried his Pow Wow Drum. His Drum was the only Pow Wow Drum there. There we met many new found Brothers and Sisters. They came from Georgia, South Carolina, Virginia, Pennsylvania, and other various Tribes of North Carolina. Even though the Gathering was small in size, the Spirit that abounded among us could not have been much greater!! Robert Fisher (Two Foxes) of the Mic Mac Nation from Pennsylvania visited with us in our camp. Two Foxes blessed my son's drum and asked him if the Drum had been named. My son answered no and was told by Two Foxes that the Great Spirit would provide the Drum a name. As five of us began playing the Drum, several Brothers and a Sister began singing. At the same time across the field, three elders of the Lumbee Tribe and one elder of a Southern Cherokee Tribe were honoring Grandfather in the sacred circle of the fire. After singing two songs, Two Foxes announced, "We have a visitor". Looking around, I could see no new face in our small group. As all were looking at Two Foxes with the same question in our minds, I asked, "Where is this visitor?" Two Foxes pointed to a cleared area next to the woods and said, "There...our Brother, Wild Turkey." To the surprise and excitement of us all, there was a Great Tom (Wild Turkey) prancing back and forth approximately 100 yards from us!! The Great Spirit was honoring the singing, blessing, and playing of the drum by

sending our reclusive Brother, the Wild Turkey!! We began playing the Drum and singing again. We must have gone on for more than a half hour! All that time our Brother, the Wild Turkey, pranced to and from in an easterly to westerly direction, at times coming 20 to 40 yards closer to us. Two Foxes told my son, "Grandfather has named your drum this day, and it shall be called the Wild turkey Drum". Brothers and Sisters across the field participating in the sacred fire ceremony later told us they knew that something special was happening while we played the drum and sang. One Brother said he saw the Drum floating above the ground and sensed the presence of the Great Spirit. Our Brother, The Wild Turkey, seemed to have really enjoyed our playing and singing. It was truly a moment in time that will never be forgotten!! We will tell this story for many years as "The Wild Turkey Drum Story". We were cordially and humbly invited by all Elders present to come and listen and/or talk with them at any time we wished. Elders present were, Ray Spotted Turtle, Many Skins, Wild Turkey, and Mrs. Pauline Locklear. My son and I did talk with the Elders a great deal and we learned a lot! The Elders were very receptive to everyone and talk of many things. I spoke to one Brother who had fasted for two days while on a Vision Quest, isolating himself from everyone. He told me that his Vision Quest was successful and exhilarating. The Trading Of Goods was a most interesting event! I watched a young Lumbee boy who appeared to be about 10 or 11 years old strike a trade with a Sister. He traded a full raccoon skin which he had prepared himself, taking in exchange, twenty decorative fingers rings. I, myself, traded some old style trade beads with "Eagle Bear" (from Valdosta, Georgia) in exchange for

two Wild Turkey Feathers and a bit of Horse Hair. Eagle Bear and his wife, Ember Heart, were most gracious to my son and I. Ember Heart taught me how to use the Bead Loom. Shield Wolf of Lake Park, Georgia shared with us the true event of "The Bird Power Storm Story" and how the Grandfather came to their call. Shield Wolf also told us the creation of the "Shield Wolf Pipe Story", after which, we all gave honor to Grandfather by smoking the Wolf Pipe. AHO My son made an acquaintance with a young Lumbee Lad named Jesse who taught my son several dance steps. They sort of hung together during the Gathering, becoming good friends. In exchange for food, we had to donate can goods to receive meal tickets. The meals were prepared on site and served cafeteria style. From story telling, bead work, playing drums, dancing, singing, herb study, jewelry making, trading, conversation, making new friends, seeing old friends, and eating good food, we all had a wonderful time and an experience never to be forgotten!! With the Lumbee Tribe being the largest Native American Tribe East of the Mississippi and acknowledging a membership of over 40,000 members, I can not understand why those living in the immediate area did not support the Spiritual Gathering by attending this Gala Event! I believe we had almost as much, if not more, Native Americans from other Tribes and States than we did our own Home Folk, the Lumbee People. I would encourage all Lumbees to attend the Spiritual Gathering. Bringing out the children for they may hear the words of wisdom from the Elders. Meet new and old friends. Re-establish old bonds. Let us reunite and become a close-knit Tribal Family showing others that we, as Native Americans, still believe in the Indian ways of expressing love, respect, and sharing toward all mankind!! AHO


A response to R.D. Locklear

by Yvonne Maria Leow
Our dear R. D. Locklear: Greetings of Peace to you. You are among many people who seem not to fully understand the Elections Reform Bills which were introduced in the General Assembly by our Loyal State Representative Frances McArthur Cummings. I shall now explain it to you. The Elimination of the Straight Ticket Voting, whenever in the near future it is recorded in the Book of Laws, will remove anger and a Peaceful Atmosphere will be restored on Elections days. There will no longer be doubts in the minds of the candidates. Whenever voters who cannot read, write, or suffer from ill health, ask another person to cast their vote on their behalf, candidates who are not of the voters choice are elected. (Example: You can ask to elect "C" and "B" can be elected on your behalf by reversing your request.) It is necessary from this moment to the November 1996 General Election, that voters who need to learn how to read, write, and know elections laws, please do so. Those who are not yet a voter, please become registered voters. Your vote is your contribution toward a Happier Tomorrow, which depends on the candidate you elect. Cast your vote personally for the candidate whom you have confidence will be determined to revise and write new State Laws to Promote a Higher Standard of Living for ALL People and not desire to only have a Title added to their name for Self-recognition. I agree with the many voters, who are telling me they cannot read, write,

and have no TRUST anymore for another person to cast their vote. Therefore, they will be either on vacation, their job, or home. Rep. Cummings will continue to encourage each person from the age 18 and up, to be responsible voter. I now share a quote from the Carolina Crusader which is published by Good News Communications -- Editor Rev. Clem W. Campbell, p. 16. "It has been said that one must be able to read to be an Episcopalian." Please think about the Law of the Episcopal Church. Let us thank Almighty God for having Rev. Augustine Joseph as Rector for St. Joseph Episcopal Church of Fayetteville, NC. Our dear R. D. Locklear, Rep. Frances Cummings is not attempting to change voting rights. Frances only needs all Candidates to be Elected by the voters' conscience, whether the voters cast their votes personally or an Honest Person assisted them to do so. A voter having a pen and knowing not how to write, tell me what use is the pen to the voter? A voter having names of candidates placed before their eyes and knowing not how to read, how can the voter elect a candidate? Before voters ask another person to cast a vote on their behalf, they should first have confidence in the person to do as requested. Having the Legal Right and Moral Privilege to Vote and Elect candidates to represent you, knowing not how to read and write, having doubts in the Honesty of another person to cast your vote on your behalf, and not knowing Elections Laws, What should you do? Learn to read and write and Pray for Guidance.

Straight Ticket Voting is electing the name of a Political Party which cannot guarantee a candidate to be Honest, Loyal, and Qualified as our State Representative Frances McArthur Cummings. She leaves the Image of the Political Party at the Door Steps of the General Assembly and enters as State Rep. Frances Cummings for Robeson, Hoke, and Scotland Counties--District 87 and the State of North Carolina. Rep. Cummings has proved her wisdom and courage to introduce HB203 to eliminate Straight Ticket and Mandatory Identification Cards, giving candidates and voters no reason to Cry Aloud, "Election Fraud." I now advise voters to 1) Pray for Guidance from the Holy Spirit and also learn how to read, write, and know election laws. 2) Take Almighty God's created time and vote for each candidate. 3) Remember patience is a virtue. 4) Prepare yourself to be peaceful on Elections Days. The Scripture says, "Do not be too anxious over anything." 5) Cast your vote wisely. 6) Be a proud and independent voter by providing your own transportation to the precinct. Our State Representative Frances M. Cummings will not be competing for votes. Frances' Holy Thoughts, Words, and Deeds will speak for her past, present, and future years in the General Assembly. Rep. Cummings shall continue to endorse every House Bill which will be to increase the People's Progressive Prosperity in spite of which Political Party the Legislator or Senator is affiliated with in North Carolina. Let Love and Peace Reign. AMEN

1996 Elections
Re-Elect the Honorable **Frances M. Cummings**
A Loyal Legislator
North Carolina House of Representatives
District 87
Hoke/Robeson/Scotland




YOU CAN INCREASE YOUR CHANCES OF WINNING A LOTTO JACKPOT!

Subscribe to **LottoWorld**
America's Lottery Magazine

- Winning Systems
- Tips & Strategies
- Great Stories
- Jackpot Winners
- Hot Numbers

26 issues for \$29.97
1-800-223-6814



Lumbee in Pursuit
William Merle Butler

The lumbee is in pursuit of his life long dream. They say he's not an indian what do they really mean? He's been ridiculed and mistreated all the days of his life. At times he feels defeated but he vows to stay and fight. The lumbee is in pursuit of his rightful recognition. He cannot be denied not by any politician. Jesse, why do you hate us? What have we done to you? He lms you'll be a loser before this fight if over. The indians have been wrong but the lumbees even wronger. The opposition is strong but the lumbees even stronger. Like the river when its full, our tears just keep on growing. We don't want your cars, houses, fortune or fame, we only want whats ours our true and righteous name. Can I keep on fighting? I pray to God I can. I'm a fearless fighting warrior I'm a lumbee man, white man keep your money we don't want your loot. Someday you'll recognize me I'm a LUMBEE IN PURSUIT.

BECK CHIROPRACTIC CENTER
Serving Robeson County Over 15 Years

Specializing In Auto Accident Injuries
Most Insurance Accepted

"APPOINTMENT PLEASE"
OFFICE 739-5751
FREE INITIAL CONSULTATION

EMERGENCY HOME NUMBER
DR. WOODRUFF W. BECK JR. 738-1126

