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A Native Son's Cultural Spirit Awakens

by Barbara Braveboy-Locklear
Special to the CAROLINA
INDIAN VOICE

(AUTHOR'S NOTE: This is part one of a two-part personality profile on Karl Anthony Hunt. The conclusion will appear in next week's issue of the Carolina Indian Voice.)

All his life Karl Anthony Hunt has possessed an insatiable appetite for knowledge.

And there have always been someone close, serving the child prodigy.

His grandparents, the Reverend Alex Benjamin and Lena Jacobs, served up volumes of it during his earliest youth when three-year-old Hunt, his two brothers and five sisters went to live with their maternal grandparents upon the death of their mother, Clarice Mandy Hunt. Hunt was the sixth of eight children born to Charles Edward Hunt and his wife, Clarice.

Hunt knew he was Indian early in life. His maternal great grandfather made sure of it.

"Grandpa 'Nanny' Locklear was an old timey Indian. He was a fascinating person and knew everything. He was a self-efficient person and taught me how to be self-efficient," Hunt remembers.

"When I visited his home I felt the

spirit...power. Now, sometimes I think he was a root worker...he knew herbs."

About the time Hunt was digesting the cultural lessons from his sagacious great-grandfather, his older siblings were enrolled in public schools in Robeson County and teaching him literary skills.

"Except for my baby twin sisters, all my brothers and sisters were in school, and very intelligent. There were so many of them doing homework, they learned together, and I observed as they challenged each other scholastically. Because of this, I learned to read when I was very young."

And when Hunt, at age six, finally enrolled at Fairgrove School in the first grade, he became increasingly bored with the simple books he was given to read. By the time he entered second grade, the young literary Lumbee-Cheraw Indian had become a disgruntled student. "I'd rather been outdoors connecting with nature," he sighs.

In the third grade, when Hunt was eight, his grandmother bought a set of WORLD BOOK encyclopedias for him and his siblings. Where she got the money remains a mystery 'til this day to the grateful grandson. "We were financially poor," Hunt explains. "But we were well-fed,

clothed good.

"I read them all from cover to cover...didn't understand them, but I read them," Hunt says of the encyclopedias. "I used to hide under a quilt and read with a flashlight...read about so many intriguing places around the world. I loved to read about other cultures, but was most-fond of American Indian culture."

As a very young child Hunt learned to sketch, and in 1963, at age nine, he created a detailed sketch of President John F. Kennedy's funeral procession.

In the seventh grade his social studies teacher, Josephine Strickland Locklear, said to him, "A really intelligent person knows a little something about everything." Hunt says the comment became etched in his mind where it remains until this day.

Reading, sketching, and painting became the teen-ager's constant companions. He says it was during this period in his life he knew he'd one day be a professional artist.

Then one summer during his teenage years while staying with his maternal aunt Marie Hunt and her husband, Ralph, Hunt had worked at various jobs and saved enough money to buy oil paints, and created two paintings. While the young artist was on a family trip to Cherokee, NC, the home of his aunt and uncle burned,

and the paintings burned with it.

More than a dwelling and paintings burned that sultry summer day.

A little bit of the young artist's spirit burned, too.

It would be almost 20 years later before Hunt would paint another piece of art.

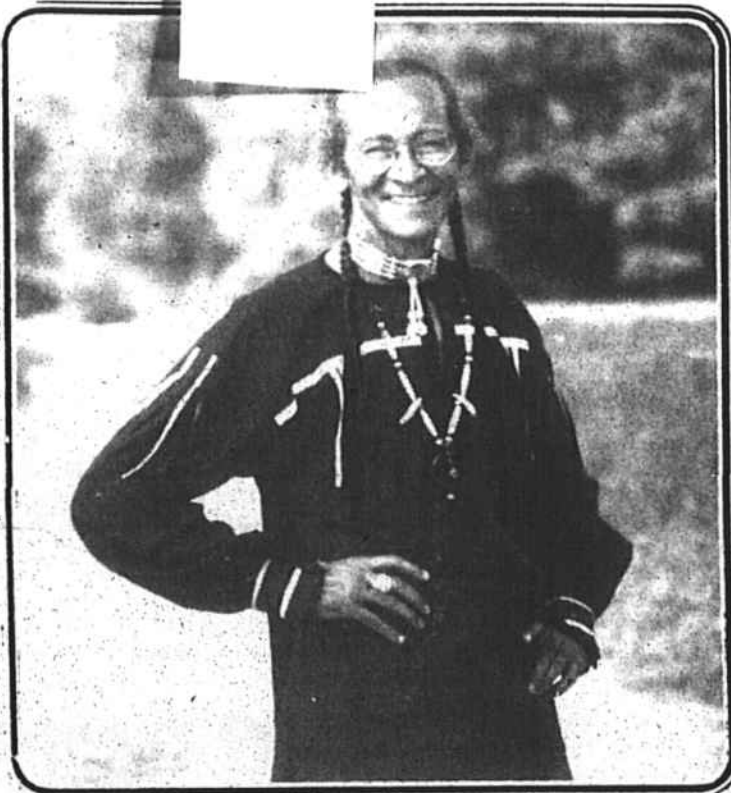
Hunt went on to graduate from Fairgrove High School in 1974. He was recruited into the U.S. Navy. There he aceed all five sections of the admissions exam and was placed into the nuclear energy program. The situation was to become a turning point in the Native American's life.

"I didn't believe in nuclear energy, and still don't," he cries. "I tried to get out of the program and ended up with a general military discharge, because of my failure to fulfill my contract in the nuclear energy program."

The exit from military service brought Hunt back to his native Robeson County where he enrolled in Pembroke State University. Restless for adventure, at semester's end he does not return to the small town campus.

Instead, he goes on a wanderlust. And the journey becomes difficult for the Lumbee-Cheraw Indian. He loses his way.

... TO BE CONTINUED NEXT WEEK



Karl Anthony Hunt

Indian Senior Citizens

Conference to be Held Nov. 1-2

Over 300 Indian senior citizens from across the state are expected to attend the 12th annual North Carolina Indian Senior Citizens Conference on November 1-2 at the Holiday Inn Bordeaux Hotel in Fayetteville.

"This conference is the only statewide event held especially for the Indian elders of North Carolina," said Greg Richardson, executive director of the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs. "It is an opportunity for our Indian elders to come together, share our experience and celebrate the achievements of our people through the years."

November 1 activities will begin at 1 p.m. and will include a health fair, a quilt fair, and presentations on senior citizens fitness and issues. The afternoon workshops will be followed by the Miss North Carolina Indian Senior Citizens Queen Page-

ant. A banquet and gospel sing will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Conference registration is \$40 for senior citizens who are 55 and older and \$55 for others. The registration fee includes tickets to the pageant and banquet, breakfast on November 2 and a conference tote bag. Registration deadline is October 24.

The conference is sponsored by the N.C. Indian Senior Citizens Coalition, United Tribes of North Carolina and the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs, an agency within the N.C. Department of Administration.

For more information on the conference, interested individuals may write the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs, 217 West Jones Street, Raleigh, N.C. 27603, call the commission at (919) 733-5998, or contact their local Indian organization.

Indian Heritage

Festival Nov. 2-3

Hundreds of Native Americans will converge at Town Creek Indian Mound State Historic Site on Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 2-3 to celebrate a heritage which goes back thousands of years. This free event offers all people an opportunity to learn about American Indian culture through games, food and dancing.

Each day, from 1-5 p.m., demonstrations of both Native American technologies, such as fire starting and bow and arrow shooting, and traditional crafts like basketmaking provide insights into everyday life. Storyteller Kat Littleturtle will provide another means to understanding Indian culture through tales that have been passed down from generation to generation.

Always a highlight of the program is the dancing by Native Americans. Again this year, Ray Littleturtle will be master of ceremonies and the Southern Sun Singers will provide the singing and drumming for the dancers' performance. Head male dancer this year is Tony Clark and the head female dancer is Natasha Wagoner, 8th National Miss Indian USA. Native Americans who register to take part in the intertribal dancing are eligible to win cash prizes of \$50 each. Twenty prizes will be given away each day.

Visitors will find plenty of vendors of both crafts and food to keep them busy between dances and craft demonstrations, as well as opportunities to get a postal cancellation or purchase \$1 raffle tickets for a Pendleton blanket (proceeds will go to support the site).

All activities take place within and around the stockade of the reconstructed Town Creek Indian Mound. Because this is an archeological site, rain during or prior to the event will necessitate relocating the program to the Agriculture Center on Glenn Road north of Troy.

Indian Heritage Festival is held in observance of national Indian Heritage Month and is co-sponsored by the Friends of Town Creek Indian Mound, Inc. and the Richmond Community College Native American Club.

Town Creek Indian Mound State Historic Site is located in Montgomery County 5 1/2 miles southeast of Mt. Gilthead on SR 1542. Signs point the way south from N.C. 731 and North from N.C. 73. (About 1 1/2 hours from Greensboro and Charlotte, 2 hours from Raleigh and Durham.)

For more information call the site at 910-439-6802.

Voice Auditions for Native

Americans at Town Creek

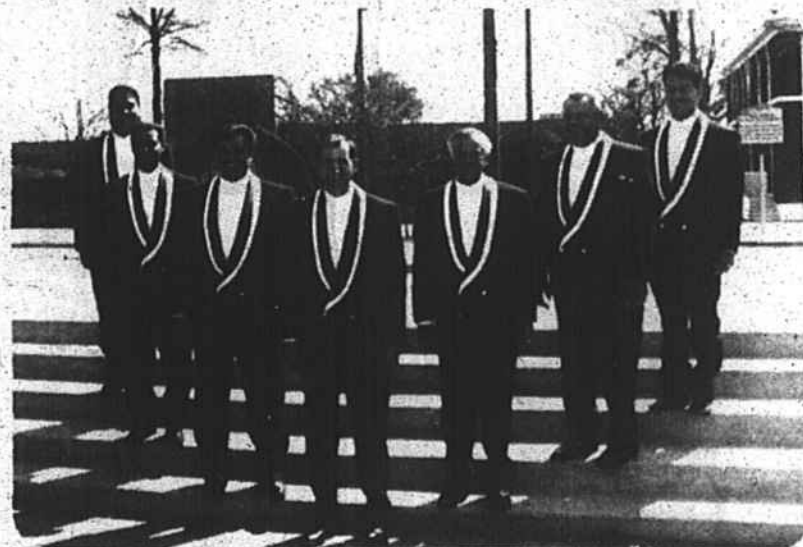
Indian Mound During Festival

Young and old, male and female are invited to participate in voice auditions to be held during the Indian Heritage Festival, Nov. 2-3, at Town Creek Indian Mound State Historic Site. Voices selected will be used in a new audio exhibit at the site.

All Native Americans are encouraged to try out for various speaking parts - no previous theatrical experience required. Each will take no more than 5-10 minutes per person. Opportunities to audition will be announced at various times between 1-5 p.m.

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Prospect UMC to hold annual singing & plate sale

Prospect United Methodist Church (UMC) will be having its annual Plate Sale and Gospel Singing on Thursday, November 7th. Prospect UMC is located on Route 3, Maxton-across the road from Prospect School. These two events are sponsored by the Prospect United Methodist Men and the Community Men (pictured) who will be on the program for the Gospel Singing at 7:30 p.m. Also appearing will be Youth Choir of Prospect UMC, The Tylers and the Pierce Family.

You do not want to miss this day of food and fellowship. The plate sale will begin at 10:30 a.m. and continue until 7:00 p.m. Then the Gospel Singing will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday November 7, 1996. The monies raised will assist with needy projects in the community. Come and help us help others.

West Lumberton Elementary School News



West Lumberton Elementary School students are busy with the Brooks and Beyond Reading Incentive Program. Shown in the picture are Mrs. Mayme Tubbs, coordinator, second graders Julia Oxendine and Amber Hepple, and Mrs. Janice Helms, second grade teacher. The two students are the school's leading readers to date. Larry T. Brooks is the Principal.



Share Life Foundation Receives Donation

Shown left to right are Bradie Locklear and his wife, Janet, making a presentation to H.B. Bullard. The Locklears, along with other young Christians raised approximately \$3,000 at a recent Rally for Christ held at the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center.

The proceeds from the event were donated to Share Life Foundation, a foundation which offers financial assistance to person who are suffering from Leukemia and other blood diseases. The Foundation places special emphasis on persons who are suffering from these diseases and may have their life extended by a bone marrow transplant.

Bullard, spokesperson for the foundation, is also a recipient of a bone marrow transplant and is a strong advocate for bone marrow donors. "When you give bone marrow, you give someone like me, an opportunity to live," Bullard said.

The Locklears are members of Christ the Victorious Church where Dwayne Lowry serves as pastor.

Further information on the Share Life Foundation or becoming a donor may be obtained by calling Bullard at 738-7335.



1st Annual World Record Breaking Events To Be Held

Harold Collins and The North Carolina Indian Cultural Center is proud to present The 1st Annual World Record Breaking Events on November 2, 1996. Come out and see Harold Collins, "Chief Iron Bear", turn over a 3500 lb. car in 10 seconds and 4 men will attempt to pull 14 tractor trailer trucks for The Guinness World Book of Records. There will be American Championship Wrestling, featuring "Red Thunder". Largest Bench Press in Carolinas. Gospel singing, Clowns, Body Builders, Braves of Thunder, and space Ball rides for children. Arts/crafts, food, beverages and special event T-shirts will be sold. WJSK and WGQR will broadcast live from 2:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. Come out and be part of this first time ever held event in Robeson County. Bring your family for a day of fun, food and entertainment. Events will be held at The North Carolina Indian Cultural Center, site of Strike At The Wind in Pembroke, NC, on the festival grounds, from 10:00 a.m. until 6:00 p.m. Admission is \$8 per person and children 6 and under free. There will also be a semi-formal dinner and dance at The Jaycee Hut in Pembroke, beginning at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are on sale at The North Carolina Indian Cultural Center office. The Power House in Pembroke and available the day of the event.

Local Physician Receives Fellowship Degree

NEW ORLEANS - Dr. Joseph Roberts of Pembroke, NC, has received the degree of Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), the national medical association representing 83,000 family physicians, residents in family practice and medical students. The degree was awarded to approximately 500 family physicians on October 5 during the AAFP's 48th Annual Scientific Assembly in New Orleans at the Ernest N. Morial Convention Center.

Established in 1971, the degree of fellowship recognizes family physicians who have distinguished themselves among their colleagues and in their communities through service to family medicine and professional development. This year's Fellowship class brings the total number of AAFP Fellows to more than 25,000 nationwide. The degree of Fellow is achieved

in one of two ways: 1) successful completion of 600 hours of accredited continuing medical study; or 2) achievement of diplomatic status in the specialty of family practice. Diplomatic status is achieved by passing a certifying examination administered by the American Board of Family Practice. Fellows must also be members of the AAFP for at least six years. Fellowship entitles the physician to use the honorary designation, "Fellow of the American Academy of Family Physicians," or "FAAFP."

Family physicians provide care for all members of the family, and are trained to treat the majority of medical problems for their patients of all ages. The AAFP was instrumental in establishing the specialty of family practice in 1969. It was also the first medical specialty organization to require its members to earn 150 hours of approved continuing medical education every three years.