

# Editorial and Opinion Page

## \$4.7 Million Proposed for Lumbee Housing by HUD

The Lumbee Regional Development Association announces that the Housing and Urban Development, Office of Native American Programs in Washington, D.C., under the new Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act, has issued proposed funding allocations for 1998, and included in the allocations are \$4,688,000 for Lumbee housing in Robeson, Hoke and Scotland counties.

President Clinton signed into law this new Housing Act in October of 1996 after nearly two years of advocacy and lobbying by Federal and State recognized tribes across the country.

As expected, United Southeastern Tribes (USET) a coalition of all federally recognized tribes in the Southeast, opposed State recognized tribes being included for funding under this new Act.

Lumbee Tribal leaders through LRDA, the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs, and the North Carolina State Indian Housing Authority in Fayetteville, NC, along with the National American Indian Council fought for inclusion in this legislation during the 1996 session of Congress.

USET lost their fight to exclude State recognized tribes, but did succeed in getting a provision in the bill that denies State recognized tribes that don't currently have their own Housing Authority in operation the

opportunity to now form one to implement this program.

Indian Housing Authorities serving State recognized Tribes in 1996 were "grandfathered" into the 1996 Act to continue to serve these tribes.

This means that the North Carolina State Indian Housing Authority in Fayetteville, North Carolina, which has served Lumbee Communities in the past will have to be "designated" by the tribal government to administer this new funding for the Lumbee service areas according to regulations in the new Housing Act.

The Lumbee tribal representative on the N.C. State Indian Housing Authority board will be William Locklear, who is chairman of the Pembroke Housing Authority and the JTPA Director for LRDA. The \$4.7 million dollars would be used for low-income families and within this funding component would be a "mutual self help" home ownership initiative in which low income Indian families could eventually own the home built for them based on their financial ability.

Also in the new Housing Act is a section called 184 in which the Tribal agency through a development corporation can actually build homes for sale to upper income tribal members and the mortgage could be financed by a local bank and guaranteed by HUD under this program.

The economic development opportunities for State Recognized

Tribes under the 184 component is the most innovative and flexible to come along in some time.

Mr. Adolph Bluc, Chairman of LRDA stated that "this Act poses some new and challenging opportunities for the Lumbee Tribe in that nearly \$5 million could be available annually for economic and social improvement of our communities. We must use these opportunities to the fullest to help our Lumbee citizens to become more self-sufficient and to better secure their future."

James Hardin, Executive Director of LRDA stated that "the fight to still get these funds to our communities is not over, because some federal tribes are upset about these proposed allocations to State recognized tribes. We will call on all of our Congressional representatives to continue the fight for these monies for all the State recognized tribes in North Carolina."

A plan on how the \$4.7 million would be spent in Lumbee Communities must be submitted to HUD by the N.C. State Indian Housing Authority on behalf of the Lumbee Tribe by November 3, 1997.

For more information contact: James Hardin, Executive Director LRDA (910) 521-8602; David McGirt, N.C. State Indian Housing Authority, Fayetteville, NC (910) 483-5073; or Gregory Richardson, N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs, Raleigh, NC (919) 733-5998.

by LRDA Staff

## ALONG the ROBESON TRAIL

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

A friend visited The Center and left us a copy of a recent and puzzling newsletter. It is entitled *Hawk Talk* (March/April 1997), and was produced by a group of people in Texas. Their apparent leader is a man called Knowles Walking Bear. The newsletter amazes me.

Among the more confusing things are assertions about the identity of the Lumbee (in an article entitled "Lumbee Cherokee"). The article defines (in part) the identity of these Texas folks by saying that: "...a Lumbee is a descendant of members of one of the tribes historically located in and around the present state of North Carolina, who has lost his ties with his tribe, and cannot be recognized as a member of that tribe.... So, what do we mean when we say we are Lumbee Cherokee? We are saying we are Cherokee by blood who cannot provide a direct lineage connection to any federally recognized tribe. The type of Cherokee we are is the same type of Cherokee as those in Robeson County, North Carolina who are called Lumbee today...."

To my way of thinking, a "Lumbee Cherokee" would be a person with a Lumbee parent and a Cherokee parent, or a person with traceable Cherokee and Lumbee grandparents (or great-grandparents back there somewhere who are connectable to both tribes). How can a person be Lumbee (or any other tribe) without being connected in some way to the families of the tribal community (either living families or past families)?

Texas is not the only place where there has been some confusion about Cherokees and Lumbees. Despite the fact that The University of North Carolina at Pembroke was for a short period called "Cherokee Indian

Normal School," I have not been able to find any real documentary evidence of an ancient historical or genealogical connection between the Indians of this area and the Cherokee people of the North Carolina mountains. If anything, they were probably enemies in earlier times.

Most indigenous groups of the inner coastal plain and piedmont of the Carolinas, from the Santee River up nearly to Virginia (including Lumbee, Waccamaw, Cheraw, Saponi, Santee, Catawba, Eno, Occaneechi, Saponi, Keyauwee, etc.) were members of the Eastern Siouan language family. They were apparently not allies with the Iroquoian language family representatives (i.e., Tuscarora and Cherokee).

"Cherokee" was a name proposed for the school in the early part of this century as a replacement for the name "Croatan." This was mainly because the word Croatan had come to be used in a derogatory manner by some folks, and because someone believed that Cherokee was a more "acceptable" Indian name. The name Croatan itself was apparently a mistaken reading by Hamilton Macmillan in the 1880s of the Algonkian word "Croatoan" (originally a place-name, not the name of a tribe).

Most research has consistently suggested an Eastern Siouan origin for the core of the Lumbee, to which was added Tuscarora (Iroquoian) and Hatteras (Algonkian) heritage after European contact (Mooney, 1907; McPherson, 1915; Swanton, 1933; South, 1965; Pierce et al, 1987; etc.). The word "Lumbee" is traceable well back into the 1800s as the ancient name of the river (and thus, probably as the ancient name of the core group of Eastern Siouan Indian people living

along its banks).

The *Hawk Talk* newsletter goes on to say that these Texas folks are "Lumbee by virtue of our political status." The editor seems to imply that anyone who doesn't fit any other category of Native Americans might be called Lumbee. But I don't believe "Lumbee" is a "political status."

Political status is something one could change, as one might change from being a Republican to being a Democrat. If by "political status" they really meant to say "legal status," that would still would be problematic. Legal status is also something that could change, as when the Pequots were legally changed from non-federally-recognized status to federally-recognized status.

On the other hand, being Lumbee would seem to be something that could not change. Either one is Lumbee, or part Lumbee, or not at all. Either one is Navajo, or part Navajo, or not at all. Political and legal status would not seem to have much to do with the matter. Lumbee is a tribal affiliation based on genetic relationships with other Lumbees. There are no non-Catholic popes in the Roman Catholic Church. Can there be any non-Lumbee Lumbees?

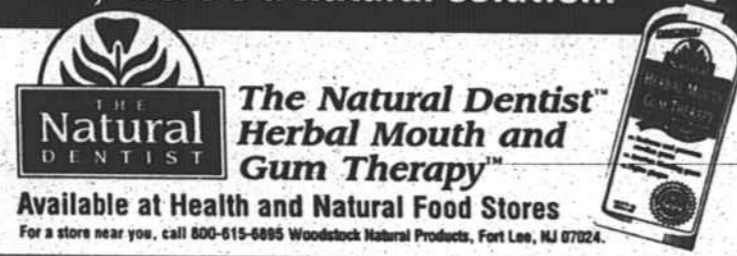
I have no reason to doubt that these folks in Texas are Lumbee or Cherokee or anything else they might say they are. If it's Lumbee, I encourage them to contact Lumbee Tribal Enrollment, where there is genealogical information going back a long time for just about everybody in the community.

For more information, visit the Native American Resource Center in historic Old Main Building, on the campus of The University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

### Native American Cultural Festival Planned July 5

The North Carolina Indian Cultural Center and United Tribes of North Carolina would like to invite you to join them on July 5 from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. to celebrate the First Annual Native American Cultural Festival. There will be old fashioned and contemporary gospel music, story telling, arts and crafts, Native American Traditional Dancing and Singing, good food and a special tribute to Henry Berry Lowrie. They are still accepting performers and artists. If anyone would like to perform, tell stories, share your arts and crafts, or volunteer to help in any way, please call the N.C. Indian Cultural Center at 910-521-2433. There will be a spectacular fire works display at the closing of the evening. Bring the whole family for an evening of entertainment, learning, sharing and fun. The event will be held at the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center.

Bleeding, irritated and swollen gums? Now, there's a natural solution!



Alcohol Kills! Choose a Better Path



CHOOSE TRADITION NOT ADDICTION

Know the consequences of alcohol and drug abuse  
A message from United National Indian Tribal Youth

Drinking and POWWOWS Don't Mix



CHOOSE TRADITION NOT ADDICTION

Know the consequences of alcohol and drug abuse  
A message from UNITRY and the National Institute on Drug Abuse

### Jackson Completes Teleflora's 'Permanently In Season' Educational Program

Raleigh, NC: Brandy Jackson of Forsythia's Florist in Maxton, NC, has successfully completed Teleflora's first-ever silk design workshop, "Permanently In Season." The workshop, created and sponsored by Teleflora Educational Services, was held June 15, 1997, at Cleveland Plant Co. in Raleigh, NC. "Permanently In Season" features hands-on, step-by-step, personalized instruction, utilizing the four seasons to create permanent floral designs that can naturally enhance a customer's home decor. The program stresses the importance of staying current on interior decorating trends and how they relate to customers' decorating objectives. The workshop Jackson attended is one of 42 such events being held in various cities in the United States and Canada. The program will continue through

August 17. The seven-hour workshops, which make up the "Permanently In Season" program, demonstrate innovative ways to breathe life into permanent floral materials. Featuring entertaining and informative presentations by some of the top designers in the nation, the workshops help florists recognize various decorating styles and elements in each style to better serve the needs of customers. Jackson completed four designs during the workshop that incorporate various styles, including interpretative parallel, garden architecture, and European and decorative influences.

Teleflora is an international florists-by-wire company serving florists worldwide. The company has offices in Los Angeles, California, and Paragould, Arkansas.



Brandy Jackson displays a floral design she created during the hands-on silk design, "Permanently In Season," presented by Teleflora.

### Robeson Community College Adjunct Faculty Positions

The college is accepting resumes to increase its pool of applicants to teach evening classes on the main campus in the following areas:

- Anatomy/Physiology**-Masters Degree in biological sciences or a Masters Degree with 18 hours in biological sciences, anatomy/physiology or a professional degree in medicine.
  - Accounting**- Masters Degree or a Masters Degree with 18 graduate hours in accounting; CPA or CMA desirable; previous teaching and/or related work experience preferred.
  - Air Conditioning, Heating & Refrigeration**- Associate Degree in Air Conditioning, Heating & Refrigeration; previous teaching and/or work experience preferred.
  - Art**-Masters Degree in art or a Masters Degree with 18 hours in art.
  - Biology**- Masters Degree in biology or a Masters Degree with 18 graduate hours in biology.
  - Computer Technology**- Masters Degree in computer science or related computer field, previous teaching and/or related work experience preferred.
  - Culinary Technology**- Associate Degree in Culinary Technology or related field; previous teaching and/or related work experience preferred.
  - Economics**-Masters Degree in economics or a Masters Degree with 18 graduate hours in economics; previous teaching and/or related work experience preferred.
  - Electrical/Electronics Technology**-Associate Degree in electronics engineering technology or electronics technology with proficiency in basic electronics theory and troubleshooting; previous teaching and/or work experience preferred.
  - English**-Masters Degree in English or a Masters Degree with 18 graduate hours in English.
  - History**- Masters Degree in History or a Masters Degree with 18 graduate hours in History.
  - Industrial Maintenance Technology**-Associate Degree in industrial maintenance technology with proficiency in electro-mechanical theory, machine processes and troubleshooting; previous teaching and/or related work experience preferred.
  - Management Information Systems**-Masters Degree in information systems or a Masters Degree with 18 graduate hours in management information systems or a computer related field; previous teaching and/or related work experience preferred.
  - Math**-Masters Degree in math or a Masters Degree with 18 hours in Math.
  - Nursing Assistant**-Associate Degree in RN with unencumbered license, minimum of two years experience as a registered nurse, experience in teaching adults and/or supervisory nurse aides, and one year's experience in providing care for the elderly or chronically ill of any age.
  - Physics**-Masters Degree in physics or a Masters Degree with 18 graduate hours in physics.
  - Political Science**- Masters Degree in political science or a Masters Degree with 18 graduate hours in political science.
  - Psychology**-Masters Degree in psychology or a Masters Degree with 18 graduate hours in psychology.
  - Sociology**-Masters Degree in sociology or a Masters Degree with 18 graduate hours in sociology.
- All applicants must submit a cover letter, an RCC Application, reference forms, and official transcripts to: VP of Personnel Services, Robeson Community College, PO Box 1420, Lumberton, NC 28359. EOE/AA

**Kick-Off Rally For Sheriff Glenn Maynor**  
at Pembroke Middle School  
**Friday, July 18, 1997**  
BBQ or Chicken (Chicken Bog also)  
Contributions \$5.00 or more  
11:00 a.m. until 7:30 p.m.  
You may pay at the door