

Editorial and Opinion Page

Along the Robeson Trail

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

As part of the on-going series on Lumbee context, for the past three weeks we have been discussing the prehistoric context of the Lumbee. We saw that the prehistoric Lumbee context can be understood in terms of four major divisions, and that the first two groups of Lumbee ancestors are called "Paleo-Indian" and "Archaic." This week we turn to the third division.

The Woodland Division of Prehistory: The shift from Paleo-Indian to Archaic lifestyle was the result of adaptations to climatic change. The transition from Archaic to Woodland lifestyle resulted more from changes within Native American culture itself. This transition (sometime between 2,000 and 1,000 BC) is marked by three inventions: agriculture, ceramics and the bow-and-arrow.

For many generations Archaic women had been gathering plant foods as they moved around in local environments. Nuts, berries, roots, flowers and leaves of various plants were taken depending on local conditions. Late in the Archaic period, one of these women (just as likely, several of them in different places at about the same time) realized that seeds from those plant foods could be preserved over the winter and planted near the base camp the following spring. This was the beginning of farming, and the opening of the Woodland division of prehistory.

The invention of agriculture changed forever the lives of Native

people in the Eastern Woodlands. Plants such as chenopodium (a cousin of spinach), gourds and sunflower were followed by squash, beans, corn and other vegetables. Nuts and berries were still gathered in season, and the men continued to hunt and fish, but agriculture gradually became a steady source of staple foods and a major part of the Woodland diet.

We can get a glimpse of Woodland farming and its products from the 1580s, the time of English incursions into North Carolina. Thomas Harriot recorded that Indian farmers produced several varieties of corn (red, white, blue and yellow); beans (which from his description were flat like butter beans or lima beans); peas; several types of squash; melon; sunflower; pumpkin; and various root plants used to make bread and soup. Harriot says the Woodland menu also included a variety of nuts and berries including at least chestnuts, walnuts, and acorns (the latter of which had to be leached to remove poisonous qualities); and grapes, strawberries and mulberries. Animal-based food items included deer, squirrel, bear, rabbit, turkey, dove, crane, goose, crab, oyster, scallops, turtle and several varieties of fish. But cultivated vegetables were apparently the most consistent and main course.

Farming was not a haphazard thing for these Woodland Native Americans. They had refined it to a very high degree, including the use of organic fertilizer, selective manipulation of species to increase yield, and "inter-cropping" (sowing

various beneficial plant types together). According to Harriot, this inter-cropping was five times more productive per acre than the farming methods used by the English of the day: "The ground being thus set... an English acre...doth there yield in crop...of corn, beans and peas at the least two hundred London bushels, besides the *macocquer* [squash], *melden* [melon] and *planta solis* [sunflower]; when as in England forty bushels of our wheat yielded out of such an acre is thought to be much."

When an acre produces this well without the use of synthetic chemicals, then sophisticated agriculture must be in practice. Harriot was clearly impressed by Native farming.

The invention of ceramics at the beginning of the Woodland division of prehistory also marked a significant departure from earlier technology. Before ceramics, storing or transporting food and drink must have been done in animal viscera, gourds and/or carved soapstone vessels. With ceramics it became possible to store the produce of Native gardens and fields, including the all-important seeds for next year's crop.

In the next segment, we will discuss ceramics and another Woodland invention, as we continue to examine the prehistoric context of the Lumbee. 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.

The Way I See It

The Power of the Indian Consumer
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The Indian people of the U.S. spend an awful lot of money. The total is over ten billion dollars each year. The amount Indian people of New Mexico and Arizona bring each year to the City of Albuquerque alone was \$350.5 million in 1993.

The figures for Albuquerque were arrived at by the Center for Applied Research in Denver. Early in the 1990's, when my friend Jim Hena was Chairman of the All-Indian Pueblo Council, he hired the Center to conduct a study titled "The Economic and Fiscal Importance of Indian Reservations to Governments in the Albuquerque Area."

The study was done by Robbic Robinson of the Center and completed in October of 1993. The Center also completed a similar study in the state of Arizona in 1993 which found that Indians spent a total of \$828.9 million in that state that year. The total Indian spending for the two states (with the total in New Mexico being \$540.9) is \$1,369.8 billion. It amounts to a lot of change.

Indian spending is 16.7% of the total state-wide income generated in New Mexico, in fact. In contrast, the amount of money spent from the state General Fund for Indians is only 2.4%. Indians are giving a lot more in consumer spending, severance taxes, and in other ways than they take back in services.

In Albuquerque, Gallup, Gordon, Phoenix, and thirty dozen other cities and towns near reservations, the flow of dollars is one way. Indian people collect their paychecks or welfare checks and go into town to buy most of what they need. The money stays in the towns. Very little if any of this money finds its way back to the reservations. That is why Gallup has more millionaires per thousand people than "any other place in the world". This little city has over 18,000 has over 200 millionaires; most of them their million on Indian Trade, Indian jewelry, and Indian tourism.

The point is that Indians have a lot of economic clout which has never been used. There are two things on my mind: (1) the need for the Indians to capture some of the hard dollars from the arts, crafts, and tourism (2) the need for people who have been benefitting from Indian spending for decades to give something back in return.

Let's spend some time on the first proposition. A lady jewelry called me the other day with an offer to help us raise some money for scholarships. In the course of the conversation, she contended that there is no Indian-owned tourism company in the State of New Mexico. I suspect that she is right.

The big tour companies charge the tourist forty or fifty dollars a head to take them out to the reservations. What do Indian people get for it? A few dollars for dancing or whatever they make off some arts and crafts.

The tour companies get the big bucks," she told me.

I wonder how many Indian Tour-

ism companies are operating. I know that there are hundreds of non-Indian tour companies making hundreds of million of dollars taking people on tour of Indian reservations.

There is a definite possibility of someone to make money on Indian

jewelry, for that person to be Indian the money made to be kept in the Indian community, and for other people to benefit from the jobs created

and increased spending it will generate. I hope to see this in my lifetime, but have seen it only done twice.

There are three notable examples of Indian people trying to capture some income from arts and crafts that I have heard about. Two succeeded and one failed. The ones which succeeded were the Zuni Craftsmen's Cooperative Association if my friends. The Zuni organization started twenty years ago, and the last time I talked to them they were doing a \$2 million dollars worth of business each year.

One of my friends finished high school, went immediately into the Indian jewelry business, and within two years figured out how to run the whole thing herself, from top to bottom. She operated her own Indian jewelry manufacturing business for ten years, and sold it for a great profit. She then went to college and got her degree, worked for her tribe for a few years, and now has another profitable business going. She got tired of the jewelry business, and wanted to do something different.

The one which failed was the National Indian Council on Aging, which failed in the most delicious of problems—too many orders. They got a grant from the Administration for Native Americans (ANA) over a decade ago to start a mail order Indian jewelry business. They had to shut down in less than a year because they could not fill the orders. They ended up sending people their money back.

The lady who called me about raising funds for scholarships told me the Indian jewelry business is huge, and that the rest of the jewelry business is much larger. She is concerned that all Indians get from the business in their piecework, or minimum wage if they work in one of the Indian jewelry manufacturing sites around the nation. Only a third of the money, at most, goes to the Indian people who make the jewelry. The rest goes to middle men and retailers. If we limited ourselves to thinking only about Indian jewelry it would be a big mistake. Once a tribe, individual, or company has made a go of it with Indian jewelry, the next step is to diversify and make other products which people need—clothes, food, transportation, supplies, etc.

The Third World nature of the relationship of Indian people to the rest of the U.S. is a disgrace to the nation. But the people who are profiting from the present system will almost certainly do everything in power to maintain the system. This means grocers, motel owners, restaurant owners, jewelry makers and middle men, and all the rest will try to stop an Indian person from making a success of an Indian jewelry

business. They will use Indian saboteurs and apples as well.

So the Indian person who tries to establish his or her own Indian jew-

elry business will find the going rough. Every thing from slashed tires to anonymous telephone calls will be used against him or her. Nevertheless, the project should be done.

The ten billion dollars (\$10,000,000,000) that Indians generate in spending each year also needs to be harnessed politically. It should be harnessed locally, with tribes forming cooperative relationships with local businesses to solve some of the problems which abound in Indian Country. The millionaires of Gallup, for instance, need to contribute to the Indian alcoholism rehab center which has been established in that city.

But more about that next month. Let's finish by saying that Indians need to capture more benefits from the \$10 billion that we spend each year. The biggest part of that capturing needs to be through the development of private sector business.

Congratulations to Outstanding Lumbee Representatives

To the Editor:
I would like to send congratulations to Miss Lorna McNeill who has always represented the Lumbee people and now the people in the city of Fayetteville as Miss Fayetteville 1997-98, and to the Stoney Creek Singers for winning first place at the Baltimore Indian Association Pow Wow this weekend. And last but not least, congratulations to our Lumbee Queens for a wonderful display of pride, and honor as they greeted the Lumbee community of Baltimore as well as other Indian nations/tribes at the Baltimore Indian Association Pow Wow. Congrats to you all—Lorna, Stoney Creek Singers, Marion, Charly, and Kristina.

Always proud,
April Whittemore

"Searching for his songs"

In May of 1992 when her only brother the Reverend Douglas Maynor died. Following the death of her father Chacy Maynor two months and four days prior. She made a promise to "not let her brother's music die"

During the life time of Douglas Maynor he composed over 500 songs. Many of his songs "lie gave away" because he "didn't want to lose his disability". Several of his songs were recorded by local groups such as The Scott Sister's who recorded "Hills of Glory, The Devil Doesn't Like It Cause Jesus Saved Me!, Visions of Glory, The Happy Echoes assisted Douglas's sister Vinita Maynor-Clark with copyrighting his last song and recording it "Twinkling of an Eve". According to documentation Vinita has all the right's to her brother's music.

Now Vinita is on a search to find songs that were written by her brother, even tho' he gave them away". Douglas left three small children behind Douglas Jr., Sharon Rose, and Gabriel who want to go to college. "Wouldn't it be wonderful if

his music could send his children to college?"

"I am also searching for some of the tapes that he would make of his self singing and would give them away. I would like the opportunity to record them and give each one of his children a collection of their father's music"

If there is anyone reading this and has any information in regard to the music of the late Reverend Douglas Maynor. Please contact his sister Vinita Maynor Clark or mail the cassettes to Post Office Box 1524 Pembroke, North Carolina 28372
(by Vinita Maynor Clark)

Pembroke Kiwanis Report

The monthly business meeting was held Tuesday evening at the town and Country Restaurant with Furnie Lambert presiding.

Awards Chairman Henry Ward Oxendine received the plaque from Kiwanis International Foundation. The plaque is in honor of Marshall Locklear post humously and the Pembroke Kiwanis Club for their donation of a thousand dollars to the International Kiwanis Foundation. The award was presented to Mrs. Gertrude Locklear by Chairman Henry Ward Oxendine.

The Dwight Lowry Memorial Golf Tournament will be held Saturday, August 30th. Tee off time is 9 a.m. Play is Capt. Joyce support ball. Ron Chavis is chairman.

Hope Mills Kiwanis Club were visitors. They were president Mary Fullerton, Judy Reynolds, president elect, Sue Galbreath and William Reed Jr. a former track star of Dr. Edward Crane's 10971 NALA Cross Country Championship Team.

Treasurer Albert Hunt reported a balance of \$4741 in the treasury. Prayer-Clayton Maynor, Song leader-Ed Teets, Reporter-Kem Johnson.

Pediatric Pointers

By: Joseph T. Bell
Pediatrician with Robeson County Health Care

The weather seems to be a little cooler, maybe fall is coming early. But with the fall comes kids in school, changing weather and ragweed pollen: all of these are predisposing factors that may lead to sinus infections.

The majority of sinus infections (sinusitis) start off as simple cold viruses (upper respiratory infections). About 5-10% of common colds turn into sinus infections. When you consider that the average child catches about 6-8 colds per year, that adds up to a lot of infected sinuses.

Remember that most uncomplicated colds will last about 5-7 days and then start going away. The most common tip off that a cold has become sinusitis is if the cold symptoms last more than 10 days without getting better. The nasal discharge in these cases can be either thick or thin, clear or colored, and is usually accompanied by a cough which is worse at night. The patient will often have a bad smelling breath. These patients seldom have fever or headache.

The other less common presentation of a sinus infection is that of a rapid-onset, severe cold like symptoms. These patients usually have high fever (over 102 degrees) and a yellow to green nasal discharge. They frequently have headache behind or above the eyes.

Some children will be more prone to develop recurrent sinusitis. Kids who are exposed repeatedly to cold viruses (such as in daycare or school) and therefore more likely to have a sinus infection. Of course children with allergies or who are sensitive to weather changes will be more prone also.

It is estimated that up to 40% of sinus infections will go away spontaneously. But since you can't easily predict which cases will do that, and because of the risk of complications, your doctor will probably prescribe an antibiotic if a diagnosis of sinusitis is made. The majority of acute sinus infections will respond to an appropriate antibiotic. Decongestants and antihistamine may help speed up the

CHOOSE TRADITION NOT ADDICTION
Know the consequences of alcohol and drug abuse
A message from UNCTU and the National Institute on Drug Abuse

process. Sometimes a short course of steroids are prescribed for more severe cases.

So if that nagging cold in your child will just not go away, or if they have a high fever with a yellow-green nasal discharge, it may be a sinus infection, and it may be time to see the doctor.

Well, that's all on sinusitis. See you next week!

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Have you discovered that running your own business is more than a full-time job? Are you CEO, coffee maker, receptionist, CFO, and sales force? We are here. To make sure you have the tools you need to keep your focus on the business at hand. To help you customize those tools to the needs of your unique business. To make things like paying federal and some of your state taxes over the phone a convenient reality. If your board meetings take place around the kitchen table, give us a call. Because in our view, every business has a personality all its own.

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