

THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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TWENTY-FIVE CENTS

'Through Native Eyes' premieres May 1st at UNC-P

Garry Lewis Barton
Two scenes from the film, "Through Native Eyes," were shot Friday, May 5th, at the Mac McLaurin (former Piglowski) farm on Oscar Fletcher Road near McColl, S.C. The final scenes were shot the following Sunday in Robeson County.

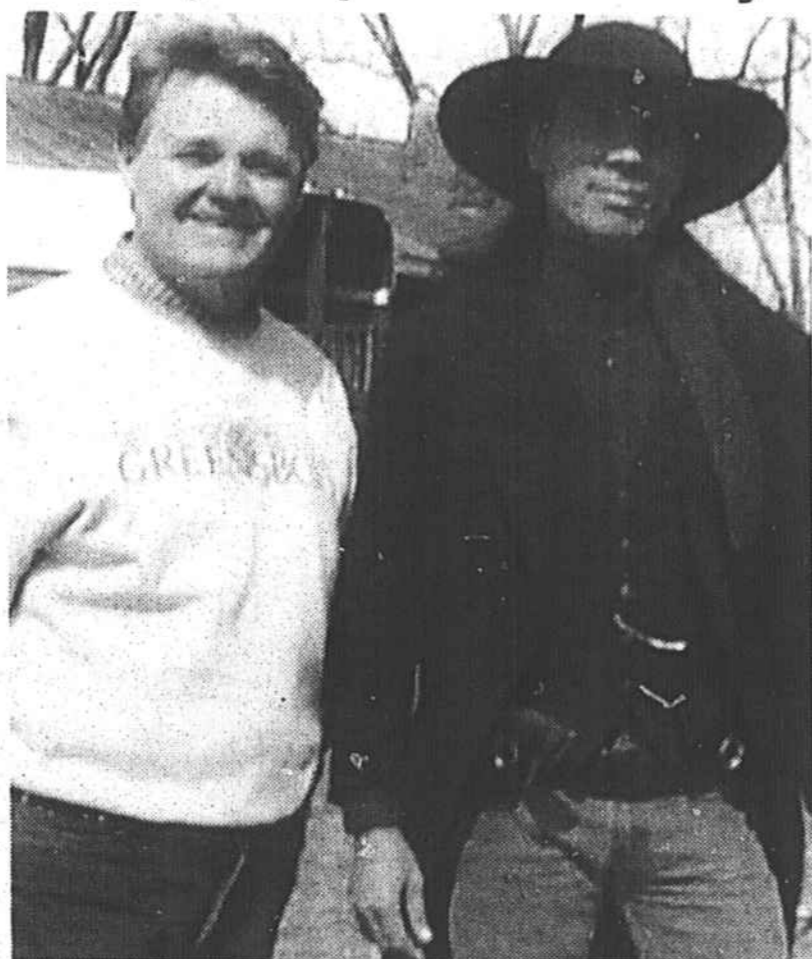
The documentary film is based on the life of Henry Berry Lowry, a Tuscarora Indian warrior who, when provoked, defied local, state and federal authorities for a decade during and after the Civil War.

Intended for educational and public-television use, and a project of the Department of Broadcasting/Cinema, Theatre at UNC-Greensboro, with assistance from UNC-Pembroke, the one-hour long film will be distributed in the public schools and used during Native American Awareness Month. A copy will also be on file in the Library of Congress.

125 actors, primarily from the Robeson County area, with some from Greensboro and Wilmington, volunteered their time and talents to the project which is a Master Thesis for Van Coleman, the producer and a UNC-Greensboro faculty member, and Bernd Reinhardt, the cameraman.

The title role of Henry Berry Lowry is played by Robert Locklear, Runner (spokesman) for the Tuscarora Indian Nation with headquarters in Robeson County. Locklear, an actor with more than 25 years experience, also played the title role in 'Strike at the Wind', an outdoor drama based on the life of Henry Berry Lowry which ran for more than a decade in an amphitheatre located on the present site of the N.C. Cultural Indian Center in the Red Banks community.

Playing Rhoda, the "prettiest



"Through Native Eyes" Producer Van Coleman and Robert Locklear in lead role of Henry Berry Lowry.

girl in Scuffletown," is Mychalene Deese, a professional dancer since 1985. Although this is her first movie, she says she always wanted to play Rhoda in 'Strike at the Wind' but was always too young.

When the Civil War erupts, most of the local white men from the Robeson County area are off fighting for the "Cause." A Home

Gard detachment of local white men who did not go off to fight was organized and charged with maintaining law and order.

Because of their "Free Persons of Color" status, Robeson County Indians were precluded from carrying firearms. When they attempted enlisting in the Confederate Army, they were drafted into slave labor

camp at Ft. Fisher instead and forced to work alongside other dark-skinned slaves performing whatever menial labor was deemed necessary for the success of the "Cause." Instead of accepting such demeaning treatment, the Indian men hid out in the dense, jungle-like swamps interspersed throughout Robeson County. The practice was known as "lying out."

The Home Guard was also charged with tracking down the local Indian men and sending them to the pest-infested, disease-ridden labor camps.

Henry Berry and the Lowry Gang were the most popular band of "lying out" Indians. They were so popular, oral tradition has it that Jesse James from Missouri once told victims on a train he was Henry Berry Lowry and they were being robbed by the Lowry Gang.

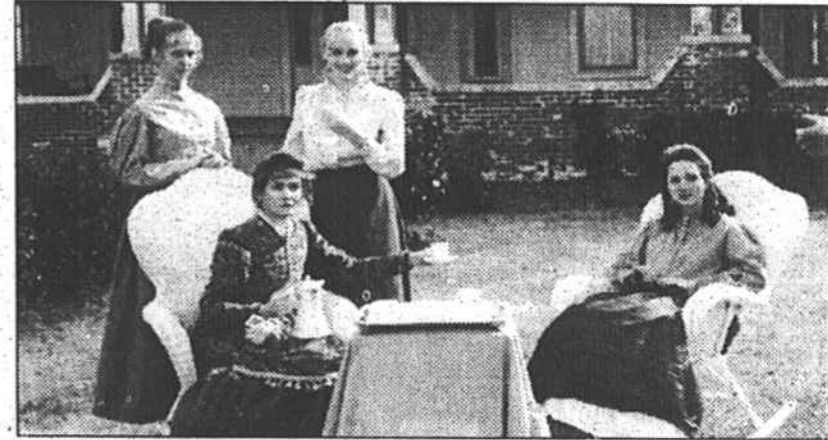
"Through Native Eyes" is an appropriate title because according to legend Henry Berry Lowry, at the age of 16, watched helplessly from behind bushes as the Home Guard forced his 70-something year old father Allen and 30-something year old brother William to dig their own graves before shooting and killing them. The pair were charged with being Yankee sympathizers.

According to tradition, the young Tuscarora Indian vowed to kill every member of the Home Guard who participated in the murders.

One scene shot at the Mac McLaurin Farm depicts his wife Rhoda meeting Henry Berry down by a pond in order to bring him food and supplies to sustain him and his gang while hiding out. The notorious gang hid out in the swamps, only occasionally leaving their safety to raid a wealthy white plantation. Afterwards, they shared



Members of the Lowry Gang prepare to raid the plantation in one scene from "Through Native Eyes," shot Friday, March 5th.



Ladies of the plantation (in real life, the Mac McLaurin Farm) prepare to greet the Lowry Gang.

the booty Robin Hood style with local Indians who helped hide and protect them from authorities.

Another scene shot that day depicts Lowery coming to a substantial white plantation to warn the ladies that their men need to be elsewhere at a particular time when the Lowry Gang comes to raid the plantation.

"Through Native Eyes," narrated by popular Tuscarora entertainer Carnell Locklear, will premier May 1, at 8 p.m., at UNC-Pembroke's Givens Performing Arts Center.



The scenes were shot at the Mac McLaurin (shown above) Farm. McLaurin appears in the film.



Rep. Ron Sutton and Ronnie Hunt

Lumbee River EMC attends Legislative Rally in Raleigh

Lumbee River Electric Membership Corporation sent a delegation of 14 representatives to the legislative rally in Raleigh last month. Board members and key management of LREMC attended the rally and the reception following.

Electric cooperatives throughout North Carolina were represented at the rally sponsored by North Carolina Electric Membership Corporation (NCEMC). Co-ops met with their legislative representatives in the House and the Senate to discuss major issues concerning electric cooperatives and their future.

Lumbee River EMC met with Senator David Weinstein, Representative Ron Sutton, David Bonner, Doug Younge and Mia Morris to gain support and sponsorship in the updating of Chapter 117. The North Carolina Association of Electric Cooperatives seeks an update of Chapter 117 of the General Statutes of North Carolina to allow EMC's to form, invest in, partner with, or own subsidiary or separate business engaging in activities outside the provision of electric service. Diversification of assets makes good business sense and helps respond to member's needs. EMC's have an obligation to manage their utility prudently and competitively.

Deregulation issues and the Study Commission's finds on the future of electric service in North Carolina. Also discussed were electric cooperative's support the Study Commission's approach to examining this complex and very important issue.

Lumbee River EMC is one of 27 electric cooperatives in North Carolina. More than 1.7 million people in North Carolina receive their electric service from an Electric Membership Corporation. Our consumers, or member/owners, live and work in more than 750,000 homes, farms and businesses across North Carolina. LREMC has over 40,000 members within its 4-county area of Cumberland, Hoke, Robeson and Scotland Counties.

Photo Caption: LREMC's General Manager, Ronnie E. Hunt (R) presents a brief case to Rep. Ron Sutton, as a thank you for his time and support.

Revival Planned

Union Chapel Community Baptist Church

Revival Service will be held at the Church on Sunday night thru Wednesday night.

Sunday Night Service will begin at 7:00 p.m. Monday - Wednesday Night Service at 7:30 p.m.

Evangelist Earnest Best is the speaker each night. The public is welcome.

Pastor is Jimmy Strickland.

In the Armed Forces

February 18, 1999 (FHTNC) -- Navy Chief Petty Officer Tommy R. Locklear, son of Thomas P. and Roberta Locklear of St. Pauls, N.C., recently reported for duty at Navy Recruiting District, Raleigh, N.C.

The 1977 graduate of Magnolia High School of Lumberton, N.C. joined the Navy in February 1986.

Commissioner Noah Woods to sponsor public forum

Robeson County Commissioner for District 4, Mr. Noah Woods, will hold a Public Forum in Robeson County Commissioner District 4 at the following location:

Maxton, March 16, 1999 - 7:00 p.m., Maxton District Court Room, 123 South Florence Street, Maxton, NC.

The purpose of the Public Forum is to receive comments, input, and to answer questions from constituents regarding matters of interest to citizens of Robeson County.

Commissioner Noah Woods welcomes your attendance.

Prospect Precinct meeting to be held

Prospect Precinct will meet Thursday, March 18, 1999 instead of the 11th due to a scheduling conflict. Mike Flanagan, Chairman. Time: 7:30 PM. Prospect School Library.

The Healing Force Performs in Pembroke & Red Springs.

North Carolina performing artists The Healing Force will perform at ST. James AME Zion Church (in Red Springs) at 7:00 PM, Monday, March 22, and at the Baptist Student House (UNC Pembroke) at 6:30 PM, Tuesday, March 23. Admission to these performances are free and the public is invited.

Founded in 1975 by Joseph an Gail Anderson, who acted with the African Folkloric Troupe and studied with the National Black Theater of New York, The Healing Force began full-time professional work in 1990. Since then they have traveled and performed throughout the country. The Winston-Salem based group will perform a program featuring singing and music, storytelling, and lots of audience participation. According to the Baptist Student House minister Ron Sanders, "The public can expect a lively, entertaining and inspiring production for the entire family."

In addition to these community performances, the group will also conduct school residencies at Petersen Elementary and Red Springs Middle Schools. Red Springs Arts Council President, John Bowman, notes that The Healing Force's school programs are designed to encourage positive behavior, creative opportunities and enrich the school curriculum.

For additional information, call 521-8777 or 843-2427.



Marri Elizabeth Brooks

Local Resident Awarded Benjamin Rush Scholarship From Dickinson College

Carlisle, Pa. -- Local resident, Marri Elizabeth Brooks, was recently awarded a Benjamin Rush Scholarship from Dickinson College in Carlisle, Pa. A student at Purnell Swett High, Marri is the daughter of Rev. E. Ray and Sue Brooks of Pembroke, N.C.

Named to honor one of the founders of Dickinson, Benjamin Rush Scholarships are awarded to some of the most highly qualified candidates for admission to the college's freshman class. Admission candidates designated as Rush Scholars may receive up to \$5,000 in addition to regular Dickinson grants. This award is guaranteed for each of the four years of an undergraduate's career, as long as the student demonstrates satisfactory academic progress.

Founded in 1773 and one of the nation's 15 colonial colleges, Dickinson is an independent, undergraduate liberal arts institution located

in south central Pennsylvania. Nationally recognized for the high quality of academic offerings, Dickinson focuses on providing innovative and interactive instruction.

Professors consider teaching their most important job and dedicate their energies to enhancing the learning experience. Low student-faculty ratio (12:1) and intimate class sizes (17 students on average) allows students and professors to develop educational partnerships that lead to collaborative research, enlightening internships and meaningful classroom experiences.

Through the broad liberal arts curriculum at Dickinson, students explore a wide range of academic interests as they develop into critical thinkers and skilled communicators. Dickinson students graduate with the competency and confidence to excel in graduate and professional schools or in careers in the fields of their choice.

Photographs by Vinita Maynor-Clark
A souvenir booklet of the historical making of this movie will be ready at the time of premiere for sale. Photographs for the book were taken by Vinita Maynor-Clark a cast member in the movie and a journalist for The Carolina Indian Voice.

Special Olympics Robeson County Spring Games

Wednesday, March 31, 1999 - UNC-Pembroke.

Track and Field, motor activities, tennis, bocce and softball teams 9:45 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.



Betty Strickland

Former Resident Receives Honor

Betty Strickland, a former resident of the area, was Crowned Sweetheart Princess at the Annual Mardis Gras Celebration, Biloxi, Mississippi. Betty is the daughter of Michael and Sally Hunt Strickland and has local ties to the area. She is the granddaughter of Sylvester Hunt of Maxton and Dennis and Jean Strickland also of Maxton.

Betty is a third grader at Duakate Elementary in Biloxi.

Celebration was February 16, 1999.

Revival Planned

Revival services will be held at New Bethel Holiness Methodist Church March 21-26. Sunday night services will begin at 7 p.m. and week nights services will begin at 7:30 p.m. The church is located on Iona Church Road between Rowland and Fairmont.

Special music will be provided, nightly. Evangelists will be the Rev. Bishop Willie Scott Jr., presiding Bishop of the Lumber River Holiness Methodist Conference and the Rev. Bill James Locklear, pastor of Prospect United Methodist Church.