

# The CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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## Kudos to St. Pauls for honoring hometown girl, Rebekah Revels, still their "Miss North Carolina"

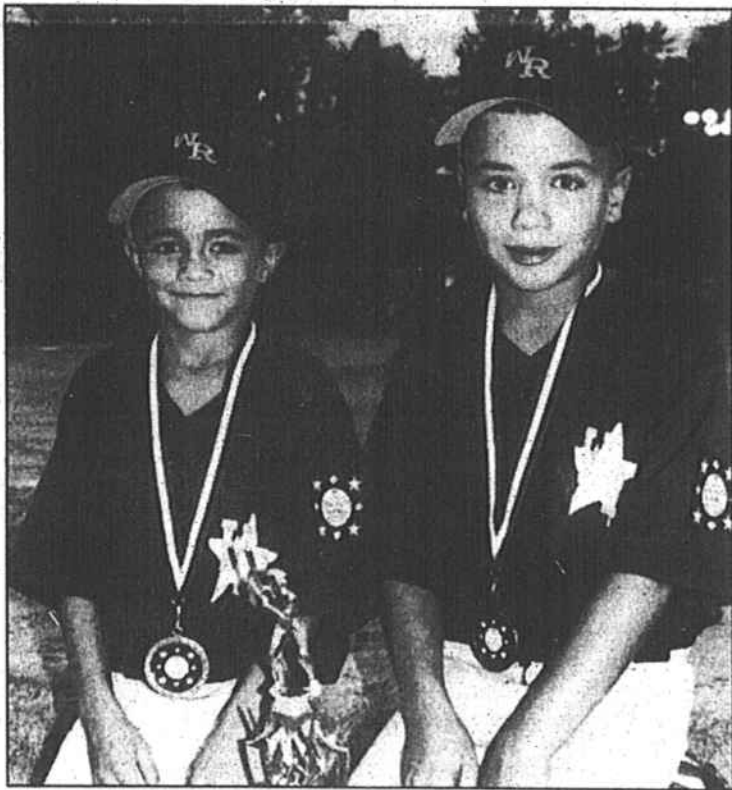


Mr. Claude Fulghum, a former mayor of the Town of St. Pauls, received the honor of escorting Ms. Revels from the carriage, and down a red carpet to the community center. He seems very happy with the assignment.

ST. PAULS- St. Pauls did itself proud last Friday afternoon (August 16) when the chamber of commerce, and all the citizens of the town, took time to honor hometown girl, Rebekah Revels, their "Miss North Carolina" who was forced to resign when a former boyfriend revealed that he had taken indiscreet pictures of her, reportedly without her permission. Ms. Sara Hayes, President of the St. Pauls Chamber of Commerce, said the honor was, in part, for her strength and courage under fire. Hundreds of family and friends turned out to honor Ms. Revels, who arrived in a horse drawn carriage at the R.A. Hooks Community Center where she emotionally thanked them for their many kindnesses. She said, "I'm sorry I am no longer Miss North Carolina ... We had high hopes of a St. Pauls girl being Miss America. There is so much talent here, we will have someone up there soon. I love you, and God bless you."

The reception was a high water mark for St. Pauls and they receive kudos for taking the time to honor one of their own, a lovely Lumbee lass, who continues to carry herself with dignity and honor as she lives through her life's challenge. Good luck, Rebekah, in your new assignment as a tenth grade English teacher at St. Pauls High and whatever else comes your way. Being "from St. Pauls" seems to have been part of your greatness and coolness under fire. Congratulations to you, your family, your many supporters, and your hometown!

## West Robeson National All-Stars



Victor and Marcus Dial



West Robeson National All Stars, Head Coach Carl Nephews

Union Chapel A's 9-10 year old team selected Marcus and Victor Dial to play with the West Robeson National All Stars competed in the Dixie Youth Championship in July and placed first runner up. The coaches were Carl Nephews, Tim Maynor and Randy Callahan. We are very proud of Marcus and Victor and his team mates for all their hard work and love for the game. Marcus and Victor are the sons of Rhonda and Rudy Dial of the Mt. Airy community.



## Rev. & Mrs. Earney Hammonds observe 25th anniversary

The Rev. Earney D. and Wanda R. Hammonds of Lumberton celebrated their 25th Wedding Anniversary July 27th with a renewal of their wedding vows at Ten Mile Center Baptist Church. Officiating was the Rev. Graylin Mitchell.

A reception followed in the Piney Grove cafeteria. It was hosted by the Ten Mile Center Baptist Church. The couple were married July 30, 1977 in Dillon, S.C.

They have two children, Miriam and Israel D. Hammonds.

## U.S Treasury Grants Money to Lumbee Tribe

By Alex Baker, LTG Public Relations

The U.S Department of the Treasury has awarded a grant in the amount of \$70,200 to establish a Community Development Financial Institution (CDFI). Funding for this project will be used to develop a lending institution that will promote and stimulate community and economic development, provide consulting services to establish a CDFI, and provide the training of staff and management. The CDFI will become a certified lending institution that will serve the Lumbee Indian community through small business financing, home loans, financial literacy training and homebuyer education.

Technical assistance will focus on the strategic development of plans, market research, development of lending policies and procedures, and the development of capitalization that will facilitate the certification of the Lumbee Tribe as a community-governed CDFI. Once certified, the Lumbee Tribal CDFI can address the identified barriers of limited lending services, limited financial resources and the lack of knowledge concerning available federal resources and the lack of knowledge concerning available federal resources to American Indians that impact new business development and expansion.

The Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina has been awarded this grant through a new component of the CDFI Fund called Native American CDFI Technical Assistance. This new component of the CDFI is designed to help strengthen and create CDFIs in American Indian, Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian communities. Congress found the Community Development Banking and Financial Institutions Act (1994) that "[m]any of the Nation's urban, rural and Native American communities face critical social and economic problems arising in part from the lack of economic growth, people living in poverty, and lack of employment and other economic opportunities." This places Indian Country in economic and social challenges significantly behind the rest of the U.S. economy.

Facts from the CDFI Fund's survey  
 \* 65 percent of American Indian and Native Hawaiian respondents report that conventional mortgages are "difficult" or "impossible" to obtain.

\* Business loans were rated as "impossible" to obtain by 24 percent of American Indians and Native Hawaiian. They were rated as "difficult" by 37 percent.

\* Larger business loans, those over \$100,000 are even more difficult, with 67 percent rating them as "difficult" to obtain.

\* The CDFI Fund's Equity Research Report estimates that the investment gap between American Indians and Native Hawaiian economies and the United States overall totals \$44 billion.

The CDFI Fund convened 13 regional and two national workshops involving leaders of tribal governments, economic development professionals, American Indian and Native Hawaiian business people, private investors and bankers, and federal and state government officials to assist in identifying barriers to access capital and develop strategies and actions to overcome those barriers.

There were 17 major Barriers relating to capital access, relating to legal infrastructure, government operations, economic, financial and physical infrastructure, and education and cultural issues.

The Lumbee Tribal CDFI will investigate these and other barriers they feel are limiting the financial resources available to the Lumbee Indians of North Carolina and creating an atmosphere for predatory lending. Further information on the Lumbee Tribal CDFI can be obtained by visiting the Tribal website: [www.lumbee Tribe.com](http://www.lumbee Tribe.com).

## Indian Senior Citizens Conference to be held Nov. 8 in Fayetteville

Over 150 Indian senior citizens from across the state are expected to attend the 20th Annual NC Indian Senior Citizens Conference on November 8 at Holiday Inn Hotel in Fayetteville.

This year's conference includes workshops on diabetes, physical and inner health care, programs, prescriptions and resources for older adults, a health fair, and a quilt contest. The afternoon workshops will be followed by a banquet and the Miss Indian

Senior Citizens Pageant.

Registration cost per person is \$30. No cost to vendors. The registration deadline is Nov. 3.

The conference is co-sponsored by the NC Indian Senior Citizens Coalition, United Tribes of North Carolina, the Native American Youth Organization and the NC Commission of Indian Affairs.

For registration materials or more information, contact James Bell, NCCIA, (910) 5210887, or Bonnie Ammons, CCAIP, (910) 4838442, or Carol Brewington, (910) 5646152, or Brenda Moore (910) 655-8778.



Harvey Godwin presents check to Dr. Stanley Knick and Ms. Teresa A Oxendine.

## The UNC-Pembroke Lumbee video project gets lift from Harvey Godwin

PEMBROKE, N.C. -- A UNC Pembroke video project on the spirit and culture of the Lumbee people has received a boost from an old friend.

Harvey Godwin, a 1991 graduate and owner/manager of Two Hawk Employment Services, has contributed \$500 to help produce "Lumbee by Grace: Landmarks in Lumbee Identity."

Produced by the Native American Resource Center, the 30-minute video consists of on-camera interviews with Lumbees talking about what it is to be Lumbee. Mr. Godwin said: "It tells about what it is really like to be Lumbee, our inner being."

Mr. Godwin, who gained notoriety for his portrayal of Lumbee hero Henry Berry Lowrie in the outdoor drama "Strike at the Wind," said the project is important for two reasons.

"Knowing who you are is important in relating to others," he said. "This project will build self-esteem and self-respect among Lumbees, and it will have educational value for how others see us."

The project is a collaboration between the Native American Resource Center, the Department of Mass Communications and UNC's Media

Integration Project. Dr. Stan Knick, director of the Resource Center, co-produced and directed the project and deserves much credit. Mr. Godwin said.

"I have admired Dr. Knick for many years, and he is a great asset to this area, to the museum and to the university," he said. Dr. Knick thanked Mr. Godwin for his continued support.

"I am pleased that Mr. Godwin is continuing his tradition of caring about the university and this museum," Dr. Knick said. "He embodies the best this university has to offer, and he is always willing to give back to the university."

Dr. Knick said the project, which has been a year in the making, is complete and tapes will mass produce soon.

"We believe we have captured something important about Lumbee culture," he said. "Basically, it is a series of interviews about what it means to be Lumbee. These are people of various backgrounds, ages and genders, with many points of view represented."

Dr. Knick thanked co-producer George Johnson, a television engineer with the Department of Mass Communications, for his technical expertise. Dr. Knick anticipates that the project will eventually be produced on DVD.

The gift to the university was made through Mr. Godwin's company, Two Hawk Employment Services, which is headquartered in Lumberton, with offices in Lumberton, Durham and Greensboro.

For more information about contributing to this project or others,

## Big Sweep 2002 September 21st

BIG SWEEP, North Carolina's annual clean-up of our waterways and shorelines, will be held on the Lumber River on Saturday September 21st from 9 am until 1 pm. Neill Lee, Robeson County Big Sweep Co-ordinator, is looking for individuals and organizations who are interested in volunteering to clean up the Lumber River by boat at bridges and landings across the river.

Last September, during 2001 Big Sweep, 65 citizens of Robeson County and river lovers from all over volunteered to spend a Saturday morning picking up 10,350 lbs. of trash tossed into the Lumber River by thoughtless litterbugs. Across North Carolina

17,015 volunteers picked up 580,626 lbs of trash from our states waterways and shorelines. Unfortunately, these same inconsiderate litterbugs have had another year to pollute the Lumber River with their drink bottle, worm cups, fishing line, tires, cigarette butts, Styrofoam containers, oil containers, dead animals and whatever else they could find to throw in the River.

To volunteer to clean up after these Lumber River polluters or for more information, contact Neill Lee at Lumber River State Park at (910) 628-9844.

Your help and support will be appreciated!