

average of \$5,000 over a period of two to four years." "We have produced 61 business graduates in the past 15 years." Dr. Chavers added. "This major initiative will let us put more emphasis on business development in Indian Country. We have maintained a 93% completion rate since we started in 1986, and plan to continue with our extremely high rate of success. Except for emergencies and family problems, our stu-dents, once selected, are graduated." "One of our graduates. Scott Maybee, now runs a company with 85 employees. Scott, a Seneca from New York, was graduated in 1994 with a degree in finance. After working for four years for two different investment firms. he took his life in his own hands," he continued. Scott says, "I jumped into business with both feet and blind folded. My sister and I founded INJUN Enterprices six years ago. We now have 85 employees and a wholesale distribution business operating mostly over the Internet. We also opened a gas station and convenience store on the reservation last year." "We need to multiply Scott's success a hundred times over." Dr. Chavers stated. "Unemployment in Indian Country is still 45%. As a nation we must address employment, housing, education, and other issues." Mr. Brian R. Gamache, President and CEO of WMS Industries, commented, "Education is the best form of individual empowerment and we welcome the opportunity to help create a brighter future for

plan to raise additional funds," Dr. Chavers stated, "to bring the total raised to \$2 million total will let us give each scholarship recipient an

young deserving members of the community." Albuquerque: The three best Indian education programs in the U.S. were presented awards at the Ninth Annual Exemplary Institute in Albuquerque recently. The Exemplary Institute is sponsored by Catching the Dream (CTD) of Albuquerque and the Arizona State Impact Aid Association (ASIAA). Over 200 people participated in the two and one-half day event. The awards are Exemplary Program in Indian Education (EPIE). Principal of the Year (POY). and Counselor of the Year (COY). The EPIE Award went to Ms. Eileen Quintana of the Nebo School District. Utah. In the past five years, the Indian Education program in the Nebo district has increased its graduation rate from 37.5% to 93%. At the same time, it has improved its test scores in reading and math for Indian students from the bottom quartile to the top quartile. "Our parents are fantastic." Ms. Quintana stated. "It is because of their hard work as tutors, chaperones, teachers, readers, and monitors that we have been successful. They help in so many ways. It was them getting mad at the situation that launched the program." "Nebo is our tenth winner of the EPIE Award, stated the CTD Director, Dr. Dean Chavers. "Nebo joins the ranks of past winners such as Navajo Preparatory School and Arizona State University. The EPIE winners are the 'best of the best' in Indian education." "Navajo Prep has sent over 80% of its graduates on to college for over a decade," he added. "Two years ago, the school sent 100% of its gradu-ates on to college." "Arizona State has doubled the number of Native American students on its campus since 1995. It has also raised the Native retention rate from the lowest on the campus (45%) to the highest (77%) he went on. The winner of the POY Award was Mr. Jack Bittner, Principal of the Umon Hon Nation Public School in Macy, Nebraska on the Umon Hon reservation. In the past six years, the school has raised the number of students who were on grade level from 15% to 40%. It has also raised the percentage of fourth graders who passed the state proficiency test in writing from 16% to 72%. Mr. Larry Parker, Superintendent of the school district. accepted the award for Mr. Bittner. Mr. Parker was Principal of the school when the project was initiated in 1998. "We are really proud of our Success for All program," Mr. Parker stated. "We encourage other schools to launch an intensive reading program for their students. It can work miracles in just a few years." The winner of the COY Award was Ms. Patricia McIntyre-Coggeshall of Phoenix College, Arizona. Starting eight years ago, Ms. McIntyre-Coggeshall formed a partnership with the Phoe: 1x Unified School District to prepare Indian students in high school to be ready for college. The Hoop of Learning program has maintained a fantastic 98% retention rate for its hundreds of students. Almost all of them finish college once enrolled.

## of Lumbee Homecoming

The Lumbee Regional Development Association. Inc. will sponsoring a Lumbee Homecoming Gospel Sing in conjunction with the 36th Annual Lumbee Homecoming. On Sunday June 27 at 6 pm at the Re-deemed Assembly of God (located on Hwy 211), the following groups will be performing: Felix Deal & Family

Carla & Redemption Rev. Mike & Quay Cummings & Bruce Swett The Pierce Family And the Redeemed Assembly Mass Choir The Master of Ceremonics will be Hedrick "Little P" Jones

The Gospel Sing is free to any and all-an offering for the church will be taken. For more information please visit out website at www.lumbeehomecoming.com or call (910) 521-8602.

## **Book Dedication Planned**

Please join us for the dedication of the book written by Mary B. Hunt on Miss Anna Mae Locklear. Date: July 4th (Sunday)

Time: 4:00 pm

Place: Burnt Swamp Associational Baptist Building The book: "From the Cotton Fields to Missions Fields: The Life and Times of Miss Anna Mae Locklear" will be on sale for the price of \$5.00.

## Community meeting planned June 28th

Tribal Council member Linda Hammonds announces a Tribal Community Meeting at 7:00 P.M. on Monday June 28, 2004. This important meeting is open to all Tribal Members. Tribal Chairman Jimmy, Goins along with Tribal Administrator Leon Jacobs and other Tribal Staff will discuss services available to the membership. For more information. contact Doug Locklear at the Lumbee Tribal Office at (910) 521-7861

Enjoy the festivities at the 36th annual Lumbee Homecoming! Welcome Home, Lumbees!



## Hammonds' pottery on display at UNCP and Raleigh

PEMBROKE, N.C. - Celia Hammonds took up pottery in 1997 as a hobby Today her work is on display at UNC Pembroke's Native American Resources Center (NARC) and in Raleigh at the headquarters of the North Carolina Community College System. A 1987 UNCP graduate. Hammonds did not study art in college. "I just thought one day that I would like to do it." Hammonds said. "Today, I live in my studio and my kiln is in my kitchen "Hammonds studied under Jim Tripp at Robeson Community College and later in wilmington at Fat Cat Studios. She continues to take classes and learn more about the craft and art of pottery making "You can't help but get new ideas from other artists," she said. She is a new artist this year with six pieces in the NARC's annual Summer Show and Sale, which opens at Lumbee Homecoming and continues through the summer. Hammond's success may be surprising to the artist herself, but her work is outstanding, as her election to show in Raleigh demonstrates. "I am very pleased about being selected to show my work at the Cashwell Building." Hammonds said "There were 1,000 submissions and 41 were selected." Her handthrown bowl bebuted on March 18 at a reception honoring the artists that was hosted by community college President Martin Lancaster. It will remain on display for a year. A native of the Saddletree community near Lumberton. Hammonds is a social worker with the North Carolina Services for the Blind. She sells pottery under the San-Beulah Pottery label and may be reached at (910) 739-7810.