

The Carolina Indian Voice



Editorial & Opinion Page

Send letters to the editor to:
P.O. Box 1075, Pembroke, NC 28372

The editor reserves the right to edit libelous and/or lengthy letters

We Didn't Just Fall off the Turnip Truck

by Vinita "Cookie" Clark

Hello there world, and thanks for joining me for a ride on my turnip truck. So, grab you a coke and a pack of nabs and we will discuss what is going on in the land of the Lumbee Indians. I know alot of candidates were surprised by their outcome in the recent election. And really you never know who likes you and who don't until you run for office.

While the majority of you agree with the things I have written, there is only one who has not. My opinion is just that "my opinion." An opinion is like a mouth, everybody has one and it is up to you what you do with it. You can sit by, not say nothing and let people run all over you. Or you can stand up for yourself and for future generations. Since this person left a letter taped to the door of the Carolina Indian Voice and didn't bother to walk in, call me or come and find me for us to discuss our different opinions like adults. I must take the letter like a grain of salt and say "to each their own."

The Lumbee Tribe Television Show
On Sunday night, once again I watched the Lumbee Tribe on Brother Billy's. I have to state for the record this is the best production I have seen so far. The topics included Tribal Enrollment and the Low Energy Income Housing Program. We could tell this production was not a tape as to the attire of Chairman Jimmy Goins and the young ladies who appeared with him. They were not dressed flashy and it is apparent someone suggested how to dress for the camera. The workers from both of the programs knew their criteria and requirements. Every now and then you could see them looking into the audience after they had lowered their microphone from their lips. And the person instructed them to raise it back up. This is a vast improvement of what we have seen in the past.

Goins however stated that the Low Energy Income Funds were only for Tribal Members when federal guidelines state they are for all Native Americans. So, folks don't be misled. These funds are for all Native Americans regardless of their tribal affiliation. If they can build members of the Tuscarora tribe houses and give them mobile homes, the they can give them a fuel check too.

I was very impressed when Chairman Goins thanked LRDA Executive Director Dewey Locklear and Leroy Freeman for their assistance. He also stated that after the last show, he is going to stop the housing

program where it is at. Have his employees go into the old files and find out why these people never got served. I had one application file in 1998 (which they say got lost) Filed another one in 1999, after I found out the first one was lost. Then once again in 2004 I filed another one. To this day, no one has been out to see my house. It makes no sense for people to have to wait this long for services period.

When I went to vote the other day, I found myself standing in line at Pembroke Middle School on the same ramp I stood on to first apply for housing in 1998. When I pulled out my card, someone asked me why hadn't I gotten my card changed? To which I replied, "When the Lumbee Tribal Government sends their representative to see my house,

I will know then the people are getting services and I will be glad to have my card changed. Until then, I will keep the one I have." Pictures from the election will be in my next column.
The NCICC

Everyone is very impressed with the work of Harold Collins and Iron Bear Visions at the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center. Unfortunately, it will take alot of work to reopen the Adolph L. Dial Amphitheater. This amphitheater was built by the people of Robeson County. And the people who were using it should have appreciated it and built onto it. Rather than let it wear out and not replacing different things until they fell apart. Built in 1975, the amphitheater should have been remodeled years ago. It should have been a state of the art amphitheater.

Everyone needs to support Harold and the good work he is doing out there at the NCICC.

The Lumbee Fall Pow Wow
There were over 90 dancers and drummers given out competition numbers at the LRDA Fall Pow Wow. For the three day event close to 3,000 people attended. Many people enjoyed the fresh cooked collards and one person said "those are the best collards I have ever tasted." All in all people had a good time.

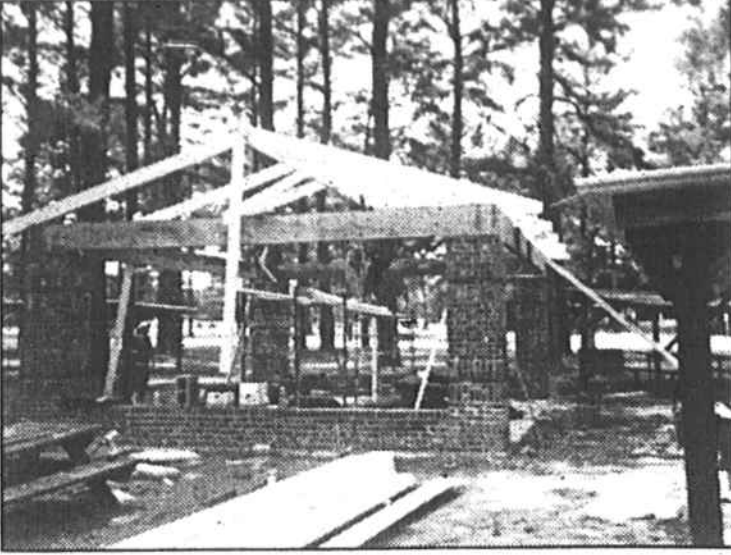
While walking into Linda's the other day I encountered the two Revels boys Juddie Jr. and Billy. "When is the last time you two had a picture taken together?" I asked. "It's been about 30 years," Juddie replied. "Well, get together and smile one time for me."

So, don't be surprised if you turn around and see me with a camera in my hands. "The Cookie Cam" will catch you when you least expect it.

Have a good week and remember November is Indian Heritage Month.



Juddie Revels Jr. and his brother Billy stated it had been over 30 year since they had a picture taken together. So, I said "smile one time for me." "Cookie, are you going to put this in the Indian Voice?" Juddie asked. Well here is my reply.



The work at the North Carolina Indian Cultural Center is very important to all of us. To the right of the photo you will see one of the old picnic shelters. On the left you will see the new one which is replacing it.

Reflections

by Alta Nye Oxendine

FLUSHOTS
Well, I actually got my flu shot! No problem, since I'm 77, well over the beginning age of 65. Wish others who are younger, but have health problems, like my daughter and a younger friend, had been eligible. Hopefully, after almost losing Gordon in 1978, I thought we had had our share. How wrong I was! I'm still thankful we had him for two more years, before the collision that took him, his big brother Donny, their daddy, and their friend, Junior Locklear, away from our two families.

I understand that John and Elizabeth Edwards, who still had a daughter, decided to have more children after their son was gone. Now, along with everything else, these two cute kids (ages 6 and 4) need their mother, and may have difficulty understanding why she has to undergo radical treatments in order to be a survivor.

I'm glad many people who sincerely care, will be praying for them. Also, it seems to me that it will be easier for this family to spend quality time together now, than it would have been as a vice presidential family. They seem to be a strong family. But, often an unexpected trial can remind us just how important our family really is!

In my case, I have been SO blessed, for these 24 years, to have had a very, very special daughter, even though I did not have the chance for my husband and me to have more children to help replace our boys! (To be honest, at first that wish crossed my mind.)

Now that we have a president whose win was not contested, I know that the very first thing all "believers" need to do is to pray for him and his team each and every day, that they will listen to God and truly allow Him to guide. The same goes for praying for the Supreme Court and Congress! With all our advanced technology, we human beings have come to think of ourselves as self-sufficient! But, who else (in this entire world) can know as much about what our nation needs to do, in every situation, as the very One behind the miraculous creation of each of our nation's citizens, the One who provided us with both the raw materials and the ability needed to develop such inventions?

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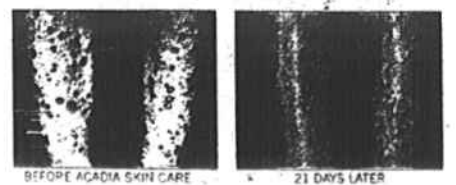
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