



INDIAN TIME

Summer 2009

FROM THE DESK OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Discussions regarding the budget continue to cause concern among state agencies, but the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs remains dedicated to meeting its mission and providing the vital services our constituents have come to expect.

We are in the midst of a belt-tightening period so strict that even those of us with long public service careers have never experienced anything like this – and the growing budget shortfall could mean even more cuts in the upcoming fiscal years. As with all state agencies, we have been directed to cut back on spending, including travel, training, and purchase of office supplies, as we streamline our efforts and find new ways to do more with less.

The news from the General Assembly and the Governor’s Office continues to present a challenge. At present, the budget cuts only apply to State-funded programs and activities of the Commission. However, since the State appropriations support the core operation of the Commission, the federally-funded programs may be affected.

We are grateful for the good wishes of our members and partners, and ask for your continued support and patience as we work together through this challenging time. I hope this information will give you some perspective regarding the budget restrictions as related to the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs.



*Greg Richardson
Commission of Indian Affairs
Executive Director*

Tribute to Agnes Chavis of Robeson County

*In tribute to her steadfast commitment to provide quality education to American Indian children, this issue of **INDIAN TIME** is dedicated to Agnes Chavis of Robeson County. Chavis is both highly-respected and well-known on both the state and national levels for her pioneering work to promote education among the American Indian communities. Her example serves as an inspiration for young American Indian students who may choose to follow in her footsteps.*

From an early age, Agnes Hunt Chavis knew she wanted to be an educator. Born July 17, 1926, in Rowland, N.C., she learned about the importance of education from her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Gussie Hunt, as well as from her teachers. Chavis attended Pembroke Graded School, Ashpole Center, Green Grove High School and Pembroke High School, where she graduated as valedictorian of her class.

In 1950, Chavis graduated from Pembroke State University with a B.S. in Education. For graduate studies, she attended



UNC-Greensboro, East Carolina University and Appalachian State University. While at PSU, she met George E. Chavis of Fairmont, and they were married during her junior year. The birth of her first two sons postponed her graduation for a short while. After obtaining her college degree, a third son was born, and eight years later she gave birth to a baby girl. In 1979, the Chavises adopted their granddaughter, and their family was complete.

Beginning her teaching career in 1951, Chavis taught at Green Grove Elementary School, Ashpole Center, Rex-Rennert School, Union Elementary School, Pembroke Junior High, and Pembroke Middle School. Along with her daily teaching schedule, she also taught Head Start in the summer, adult basic education classes at Tri-County Association and Fayetteville Technical Institute, and adult high school education at Robeson Technical College. She also taught adult education night classes for 20 years. After spending 40 years helping others realize that education is the key to success, she retired in 1990.

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One of the greatest challenges Chavis experienced over the years was helping to keep students clothed and fed. To benefit poor families in the community, she organized community events, including sewing nights to make new clothes, and encouraged other outreach efforts to make it easier for the children to dedicate themselves to learning. "The parents pitched in and the community worked together for the good of the children," she said. "They allowed the children to dedicate themselves to learning."

Her list of honors and awards is too long to list here, but a few cannot go unmentioned: She was the first Lumbee Indian to serve on the National Education Association Board of Directors, and she was the first American Indian to serve on the N.C. Association of Educators Board of Directors. Consistent with her life's focus, she helped organize North Carolina's Indian Caucus and, in 1982, was named Outstanding Indian Educator of the Year by the National Indian Education Association. One of her proudest moments was the signing of the Indian Education Act by President Bill Clinton. This legislation offered the funding and recognition that she, and others, had worked toward for many years. Another rewarding experience was receiving an eagle feather, the symbol of leadership, from her peers.

In July 2009, Chavis travelled to California to receive the National Education Association Retired 2009



Agnes Chavis in 1977 giving individualized help to six middle school children in mathematics, all working on different levels.

Distinguished Service Award. Also, she was presented with an engraved crystal bowl and a monetary gift in the amount of \$1,000. Pam Deardorff, Executive Director of N.C. Retired School Personnel, said, "No one that I know is more deserving of this award than Ms. Agnes Chavis."

For her excellent leadership in the field of Indian education, and for the inspiration she has provided for those lives she has touched, the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs is pleased to recognize, salute and applaud Agnes Chavis.

OFFICE RELOCATED

The N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs has relocated to offices on the 3rd floor of the Administration Building in downtown Raleigh. The physical address is 116 W. Jones Street, and the mailing address will remain 1317 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1317. The new office phone number is 919-807-4440.



From left, Mickey Locklear, Kim Hammonds, Elk Richardson, Greg Richardson, W.C. Groves and Missy Brayboy

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Haliwa-Saponi Pow-wow Celebrates Family Traditions

By Secretary Britt Cobb

Family reunions can be awkward when it's not your family, but I have never felt so welcome as when I joined Commission of Indian Affairs Director Greg Richardson on April 18 at the Haliwa-Saponi Powwow in Hollister.

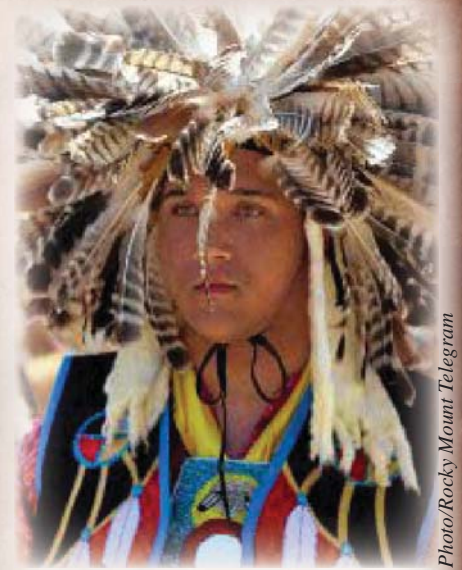
I had never attended a powwow before and really didn't know what to expect. What I found was a joyous celebration of the Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe, a culturally significant institution that not only reveres old ways but also embraces new opportunities to strengthen its people.

I was fortunate to arrive in time for the grand entry, a processional that focused on core traditions and values. While it spotlighted children, dancers and musicians in colorful regalia, I was particularly touched by its tributes to veterans and tribal elders.

Hard work and respect for tradition was evident in numerous special craft displays and cultural demonstrations, but is also a cornerstone of everyday life for the Haliwa-Saponi. The community operates the only tribally-based charter school in North Carolina and is the largest employer in the Hollister area, administering a housing program, child daycare, and substance abuse and tobacco cessation programs.

While supported by the local community and tribes across North Carolina, the powwow also attracted tribal visitors from outside of the state and others interested in American Indian culture. It was clear that everyone present – myself included – enjoyed the crafts, food and folklore, making the powwow a great family gathering for any family.

This item first ran on the Governor's e-Town Hall blog: <http://www.governor.state.nc.us/eTownhall/Blog/>



Photo/Rocky Mount Telegram

Participant in the 44th annual Haliwa-Saponi Pow-wow.

COMMISSION NEWS

HALIWA INDIAN SCHOOL DOCUMENTATION PROJECT

The Haliwa Indian School Documentation Project is moving forward with documenting the historic Haliwa Indian School. In an effort made possible in part by a grant from the N.C. Humanities Council, a committee recently scanned old photographs of the school in the era of tribal reorganization at the Chief W.R. Richardson Tribal Government Complex in Hollister.

Established in 1957 for the exclusive use of the Haliwa Indian Tribe, the purpose of the school was to preserve and maintain American Indian identity. The objective of the project is to document the founding of the Haliwa Indian School, its meaning to the community, and its significance in the history of the Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe. For information or to contribute to the project, please contact Marty Richardson at 252-586-4017 ext. 245, or mrichardson@haliwa-saponi.com.



Photo/Haliwa-Saponi Tribe

*Haliwa-Saponi Indian School - 1957
Haliwa-Saponi*

HALIWA INDIAN SCHOOL GRADUATION

On May 27, the 2009 graduating class at the Haliwa Indian School received their diplomas during a ceremony at the Haliwa-Saponi Tribal Powwow Grounds, located behind the school on Haliwa-Saponi Trail in the Bethlehem community near Arcola.

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Patrice Richardson, daughter of Patricia Harris of Hollister, was the class valedictorian. Honor marshals were Shelby Wilson, daughter of Daniel and Linda Wilson of Hollister, and Mathew L. Richardson, son of Charles and Deborah Copeland of Hollister.

Dr. Linwood Watson, a family medicine physician and a member of the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe, was the keynote speaker. "The community was very happy with the graduation of these outstanding students," he said. "They symbolize the value which is placed on education by American Indian families."

REPORTS FROM NCCIA DIRECTORS

Sadie Barbour, Interim Director Community Services Program

For more than 38 years, the Community Services Program has delivered critical services such as In-home Aide Level I assistance, volunteer transportation, nutrition programs, and the ongoing coordination of older adult activities to elderly and disabled individuals who have been approved by the N.C. Division of Aging and Adult Services to be certified through the N.C. Division of Social Services.

One of the annual events coordinated through the Community Services Program is the Mid-Carolina Senior Games, which was held March 23-April 7 at Pope Air Force Base in Fayetteville. After the opening ceremonies, the first event of the Senior Games was the Silver Striders Fun Walk. Dennis Streets, Director of the N.C. Division of Aging, gave welcoming remarks. The seniors took part in an array of sporting activities such as spin casting, basketball shooting, bowling, softball throwing, and horseshoes.



*From left, Ovie Wynn, Ethel Brewington and
Glenda Simmons Foss*

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES

The N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs extends heartiest congratulations to all of our high school and college graduates. We commend you for a job well done, and we encourage you to further your education by attending and graduating from college.

Congratulations to Ethel Brewington, Gloria DePue, Jamie DePue, Glenda Simmons Foss, Rosie Freeman, Peggy Jones, Curley Jones, Martha Maynard, Helen McCowan and Ovie Wynn, who were awarded silver and gold medals. Tribal communities provided a special lunch for all participants.

Missy Brayboy, Director American Indian Tobacco Prevention Program, American Indian Health Initiative

The Teen Tobacco Use Prevention Program focuses on preventing and decreasing tobacco use among American Indian youth by implementing culturally-appropriate strategies, providing tobacco prevention education, advocating for tobacco-free policies, and capacity-building. The program is supported by the N.C. Health and Wellness Trust Fund Commission.

The N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs is partnering with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill to implement a community engagement initiative focusing on American Indian health. The Commission is acting as the lead contact for UNC to assist with facilitating this important initiative in American Indian communities with tribal and community leaders. The initiative is global in scope and will help build capacity and infrastructure for data collection and needs assessments so communities can apply for funds to address the needs of tribal members.

On May 23, the Commission co-sponsored a Community Health and Wellness Day with the Burnt Swamp Association of Pembroke and the Tri-Stroke Network of North Carolina. The focus was on the health of pastors and clergy, cardiovascular disease, nutrition and physical activity. The Rev. Gary Locklear, a Methodist missionary, gave a presentation on the importance of making health

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a part of the church structure. Featured speakers for the conference, which was attended by church clergy and community members, were Dr. Donald West and Dr. Terry Locklear.

A group of American Indian health care professionals gathered May 28 at the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill to discuss formalizing an American Indian Health Board (AIHB). Dr. Robin Cummings, Chair of the Health Committee for the Commission of Indian Affairs, led the group in discussing the importance of creating an American Indian Health Board in North Carolina that would advocate on behalf of Indians in our state. Other key health care providers who would bring expertise to the work of the Board were identified and will receive a letter of invitation from Dr. Cummings. Recognizing that receiving adequate health care is an important issue for all American Indian communities in North Carolina, the AIHB agreed to keep its mission broad and policy-oriented. The group will hold future meetings to continue the formation of the board and the scope of its work.

W.C. Groves, Director Section 8 Housing Program

The Section 8 Housing Choice Voucher Program is a type of federal assistance provided by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). This program is dedicated to sponsoring subsidized housing for low-income families and individuals.

During the first week in June, the Commission of Indian Affairs Section 8 Housing Program accepted applications from families in Granville and Person counties. To qualify for assistance, a family must meet requirements set by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). Applications are open to the general public, and all applicants are required to show official identification, such as a photo ID, Social Security card, or a copy of their birth certificate at the time of application. Failure to present this information will result in application denial.

Additional information regarding the Section 8 Housing Program is available by visiting <http://www.doa.state.nc.us/cia/progr-s8hap.htm> or contacting the Commission at 919-807-4440.

Kimberly Hammonds, Director Economic Development

At the Supporting Our Native Sons (SONS) Program Annual Academic Success Workshop, which was held May 15 in

Pembroke, the Commission of Indian Affairs announced that the program name has changed to Supporting Undergraduate Native Students (SUNS). Program Director Kimberly Hammonds debuted a new logo and offered a program update.



During the workshop, students received information regarding program updates. They heard a presentation by Dr. Olivia Oxendine, professor and academic advisor at UNC-Pembroke, entitled "Navigating Your Way To and Through College: Tips from a Professor's Side of the Desk." This workshop provided students

with the strategies needed to navigate the college years successfully. At the close of the meeting, students were presented with a "Tool Kit for Academic Success" filled with all the necessary tools to successfully navigate through college.

Mickey Locklear, Director Educational Talent Search Program

The 30th annual N.C. Native American Youth Organization (NCNAYO) was held June 15-18 at the University of North Carolina in Wilmington, N.C. The theme for this year's conference was "Native Survivor."

The event provided an opportunity for over 200 American Indian students to learn more about their Indian heritage, explore educational opportunities, and work together on issues and concerns of Indian youth.

Trip to Washington

Fifty Educational Talent Search (ETS) seniors participated in a four-day trip to Washington, D.C., on June 22-25. During the trip the students attended a "College Survival Skills" workshop. The workshop focused on providing information to ensure a successful transition from high school into college life, a round table discussion of expectations and fears about college life and featured a discussion of the freshman year by two Indian students, one who had just completed their freshman year of college and one who had just graduated from college. Students also toured the museums and monuments and enjoyed a day at Six Flags at the end of the workshop.

United National Indian Tribal Youth Conference

Twenty ETS students and staff attended the United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) annual conference in Albuquerque, N.M., July 2-7.

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High School Survival Skills Workshop

A "High School Survival Skills" workshop for ETS students was held July 15-17 on the campus of William and Mary College in Williamsburg, Va. The workshop was attended by rising 9th graders who will learn different study strategies, how to take notes and how to "survive and thrive" in high school. The students also visited Colonial Williamsburg and Busch Gardens.

Bill and Melinda Gates Millennium Scholarship

Two ETS students have been awarded the Bill and Melinda Gates Millennium Scholarship to begin studies this fall: Kaelyn Newton of Clinton and Leslie Ann Locklear of Red Springs.

- **Kaelyn Newton**, daughter of Vickie and Dennis Newton, graduated from Clinton High School as a North Carolina Scholar. Kaelyn also has received the N.C. Baptist Association Scholarship, United Tribes of North Carolina Scholarship, Fort Bragg Commissary Scholarship and the Campbell Scott-Ellis Scholarship. She plans to enter Campbell University this fall to pursue a degree in Early Childhood Development. She eventually plans to enroll in law school and work in child advocacy.
- **Leslie Anne Locklear**, daughter of Jerry and Lesia Locklear, graduated summa cum laude from Hoke High School as a North Carolina Scholar. In addition to the Gates scholarship, Leslie has been awarded the Ronald McDonald and United Tribes of North Carolina scholarships. Leslie will begin her studies at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill this fall. She plans to pursue studies at the doctorate level and return to Hoke County to benefit her community.

Elk Richardson, Director

American Indian Workforce Development Program

The American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 was signed into law by President Obama on February 17. Funding provided by this legislation has offered North Carolina an unprecedented opportunity to help jumpstart the economy through the creation of jobs on our reservation and off-reservation urban and rural American Indian communities.

The N.C. Commission on Workforce Development, in accordance with federal guidelines for the recovery funding, has dispersed funds to 24 local workforce development boards across the state, which will in turn distribute the monies locally to agencies. The local agencies will provide special workforce development services and subsidized employment opportunities to youth and displaced workers in their areas.

Local collaboration is resulting in subsidized work activities in the Coharie, Haliwa-Saponi, Lumbee, Waccamaw-Siouan, Guilford, and Metrolina Native American communities. The

Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians is the only North Carolina tribal entity eligible to receive direct federal funding of economic stimulus assistance for workforce development programs.

Carolyn Crocker attended the 42nd N.C. Employment and Training Association (NCETA) Conference held May 15-17 in Wilmington. NCETA is a statewide organization of workforce development professionals who provide state and federally-funded employment and training program services to North Carolina businesses and individuals. Roger Shackelford, Executive Director of the N.C. Commission of Workforce Development, was the keynote speaker at the Spring NCETA conference. Also in her capacity as a partner with the Columbus County Job Link Career Center representative to the Cape Fear Council of Governments Youth Council, Carolyn attended and assisted with the coordination of the 2009 Cape Fear Young Adult Conference. At this conference, 165 youth attended focus groups on community leadership skills, academic enrichment exercises, career and occupational information sessions, and various other sessions addressing contemporary youth issues.

For additional information on the state's workforce development programs and opportunities provided through the economic stimulus funding for workforce development, contact the N.C. Commission on Workforce Development at 919-329-5255, or visit the N.C. Department of Commerce web site at www.nccommerce.com/en.

National Indian Employment Training Conference

Elk Richardson and colleague Carolyn Crocker attended the 30th National Indian and Native American Employment and Training Conference (NINAETC). The conference was held from May 17-21 in Sacramento, Calif., and the theme was "Tribute to the Past, Empowering the Present, Continuing the Legacy."

The conference included a special recognition of individuals who have worked in Indian and Native American workforce development programs or served in governing capacities of these agencies for 20, 25, and 30 years. Commission of Indian Affairs representatives recognized for 30 years of service in American Indian workforce development programs were: Pam DeRensis, W.C. Groves, Roy Maynor and Greg Richardson. Earlene Stacks was recognized for 25 years of service. Those recognized for 20 years of service were: Sue Brewington, Elk Richardson, and Lila Spaulding. Former Commission of Indian Affairs Executive Director A. Bruce Jones also received recognition for 30 years of service.

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TRIBAL RECOGNITION

Since 1976, the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs has administered procedures for the state recognition of previously unrecognized American Indian tribes and organizations in North Carolina. Authorized by NCGS 143B-406, the Commission administers tribal recognition procedures, as established under Chapter 15 of the North Carolina Administrative Code.

A 12-member Recognition Committee composed of representatives of each American Indian tribe and urban American Indian organization makes recommendations on recognition matters to the full Commission. The Meherrin Tribe of Hertford County was granted state recognition under these procedures in 1986. In 1997, the historic tribal group known as the Indians of Person County had their recognition status reinstated by the N.C. General Assembly, and they are now recognized as Sappony.

In March 2000, the Commission officially recognized the Raleigh-based urban Indian organization, Triangle Native American Society, Inc. In February 2002, an Orange County Superior Court Order, issued in accordance with a decision rendered by the North Carolina Court of Appeals, granted legal recognition of the Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation.

The Commission is now considering the status of a group from Maxton (Robeson County, N.C.) calling itself the "Tuscarora Nation of North Carolina." Further action is pending legal review of the group's use of the name of an existing tribe recognized by the federal government.

Key factors addressed during the North Carolina tribal recognition process include the petitioning group's ability to trace its ancestry back to American Indian tribes indigenous to North Carolina prior to 1790 (1 NCAC 15.0203[a]); the petitioner's submission of its membership lists ("tribal rolls") of its inter-related members (1 NCAC 15.0209[6] and 15.0202[5]), which must be consistent with submitted genealogical charts and information; and the petitioning group's satisfaction of five of eight criteria that address various aspects of continuous historic American Indian tribal identity in North Carolina.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The N.C. Indian Economic Development Initiative Inc. has relocated to Raleigh. The new address is 5800 Faringdon Place, Raleigh, N.C. The NCIEDI will continue to offer support to American Indian businesses, tribes and organizations from its new location and can be reached at is 919-232-9414.

In partnership with Lumbee Regional Development Association, NCIEDI also will maintain a satellite office in Pembroke. The office number is 910-732-3950.

NEW ASSISTANT INTERIOR SECRETARY

President Barack Obama has appointed Larry EchoHawk, a law professor at Brigham Young University and a member of the Pawnee Tribe, as Assistant Interior Secretary for Indian Affairs. Elected Idaho Attorney General in 1990, EchoHawk was the first American Indian to hold that office. He served as a county prosecutor, an Idaho State Representative, and was the Democratic nominee for the Governor of Idaho in 1994.

WELCOME INTERNS

We are pleased to welcome three very capable State Government Interns who have been assigned to the Commission of Indian Affairs for the summer:

Sherri Brooks of Pembroke, a member of the Lumbee Indian Tribe, is interning as part of her curriculum to complete a Masters Degree in Social Work. She attended the George Warren Brown School of Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo. Sherri has completed her Masters level coursework for a concentration in "Social and Economic Development," focusing on policy and issues affecting Indian Country. She is excited about her work as a means to better understand the issues directly facing American Indians in North Carolina. While at the Commission, Sherri will be working closely with the tobacco prevention program and the developing health initiatives.

Cynthia Greenlee-Donnell of Greensboro is a third-year American History doctoral student at Duke University. A Morehead Scholar at UNC-Chapel Hill, she has a B.A. Degree in History and a Masters Degree in Journalism. Also, Cynthia owns and operates a freelance writing and editing business. At the Commission, she is documenting tribal education before

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From left, Cynthia Greenlee-Donnell, Sherri Brooks, and Mallory Richardson

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desegregation in a new project called "Historical Perspective of Indian Education in North Carolina." Cynthia plans to interview tribal members who attended, helped to establish, or have information such as photographs and other materials, about Indian schools. If you would like to speak with Cynthia regarding this assignment, please call her at 919-225-3219.

Mallory B. Richardson of Rocky Mount is a recent graduate of N.C. State University earning degrees in English and Communication-Media, with a minor in Entrepreneurship. At NCSU, Mallory served as president of the Native American Student Association, became a student mentor, and participated in a host of community service activities. Mallory is working as the "Foster Care and Adoptive" intern and plans to launch a statewide education and outreach initiative. Mallory plans to return to NCSU in the fall to study Nonprofit Management within the department of Public Administration. Additionally, she plans to advocate on behalf of the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe and create her own a non-profit organization to help prepare minority youth for higher education.

DUGAN TO CHEROKEE SCHOOLS

Joyce Dugan, former Principal Chief of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and former External Relations Director for the Cherokee casino, has been named Superintendent of the Cherokee Indians School System, a position she formerly held from 1990-1995. Dugan spent her early career as a school teacher and served on the Cherokee School Board.



Photo/NASA

Joyce Dugan

As a parting gift from the casino, Dugan received a painting by acclaimed Cherokee artist Donald Vann. It depicts Sequoyah, creator of the Cherokee language syllabary.

FAREWELL AND THANKS

Pamela Graham DeRensis, Program Director for the White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities (WHITCU), has returned to her post in Washington, D.C., after serving as a Special Assistant at the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs. Participating in many projects, she was an integral part of the Commission during the time she was on loan from the federal government.

Her former colleagues wish to share this recent message from her:

"It's hard to believe that I'm back in Washington, D.C., after 20 months of being in God's country, North Carolina! But, back I am at my position with the WHITCU. In many ways things haven't changed that much here. My Department (US Department of Education) is going through transition just as all federal agencies do when there is a new administration in the White House. We're still waiting for the appointments of senior-level officials so we can move forward with the White House Education Agenda. At the same time, we have to carry on the business at hand the best we can. Phones still ring off the hook, mail still arrives, and meetings still have to go on with the caveat that we can make no commitments until the senior-level political officials arrive. And, for the time being, I'm the lone staffer in my office, and I'm doing it all!

"My office works to ensure that the nation's 33 Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) have access to federal resources that also benefit other higher education institutions. Tribal Colleges are often the only postsecondary institutions within some of our nation's poorest rural areas, and they provide hope to communities that suffer high rates of poverty and unemployment. By teaching the job skills that are most in demand on their reservations, TCUs are laying a solid foundation for tribal economic growth and essential services to the communities where they are located.

"While my work here is rewarding, I'm grateful for the opportunity that the U.S. Department of Education gave me by allowing me to work at the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs for 20 months, where it all began with my first job in 1978. I will always treasure the experience and the laughs I had with each of you. Thanks!"

NEW EMPLOYEE

Kerry D. Bird has rejoined the Commission staff after a 12-year absence to serve as Coordinator of the Tobacco Use Prevention Program, which promotes anti-smoking activities in Indian communities.

Kerry left the Commission to pursue a Master's Degree in Social Work at Washington University in St. Louis, Mo. Upon completion of his degree, he moved to Minneapolis, Minn., where he worked for ProGroup, Inc., a consulting firm specializing in providing diversity awareness training to corporations across the country. Employed as the Trainings & Logistics Manager, Human Resources Manager and Trainer/Consultant, he facilitated trainings with corporate clients such as Microsoft, Deloitte & Touche, and American Family Insurance.

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Following his tenure at ProGroup, Kerry served in two interim positions with national organizations serving American Indians. He was appointed Interim Executive Director for Native Americans in Philanthropy, where he oversaw the successful transition of the organization from Lumberton, to St. Paul, Minn., expanded the organization's membership, and planned the annual meeting.

In December 2006, Kerry was selected to serve as interim Executive Director of the National Native American AIDS Prevention Center, where he managed a 15-member staff as well as the relocation/transition of the company from Oakland, Calif., to Denver, Colo.

We are pleased to have Kerry back on board. Both his experience and expertise bring valuable resources to the Commission of Indian Affairs.

FLU PREVENTION

The U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention has posted a list of recommendations to forestall the H1N1 flu, or any other infectious disease. These healthy habits include:

- Avoid contact with people who are sick.
- Stay at home when you are ill.
- Shield others from your coughs and sneezes by using a tissue.
- Wash your hands thoroughly and often.
- Keep your hands away from your eyes, nose, and mouth.
- Maintain healthy habits such as getting enough sleep and exercise, drinking fluids, and making good food choices.

STATE EMPLOYEE FURLOUGHS

On April 28, Governor Bev Perdue signed Executive Order No. 11, entitled Establishing and Implementing a Flexible Furlough Plan for the 2008-2009 Fiscal Year. The purpose of this executive order was an effort to help balance the State budget.

The compensation of all teachers and state employees will be reduced by an annualized amount equivalent to .05 percent for the remainder of the fiscal year. In return, each employee will receive 10 hours of flexible time off that can be taken between June 1 and December 31, with supervisory approval. Therefore, when an employee takes time off, compensation will not be deducted any further beyond the .05 percent taken this fiscal year. The furlough does not affect retirement or health insurance benefits.

WE SHALL REMEMBER

Chief Roscoe Jacobs, who passed away January 27, was honored on May 4 by House Joint Resolution 343, A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF ROSCOE JACOBS, SR., FORMER CHIEF OF THE WACCAMAW SIOUAN TRIBE. A ceremony of recognition and thanksgiving was held in the House Chamber of the N.C.

Legislative Building. Chief Jacobs, a job developer for the Lumbee Regional Development Association and a community developer for Four County Community Services, Inc., became a leader of the Waccamaw Siouan Tribe and was elected as its first Chief in April 2005.

Tony Stewart, Superintendent of the Elizabeth City-Pasquotank Schools for nine years, recently passed away unexpectedly at the age of 67. A member of the Sappony Tribe, Stewart had planned to retire effective June 30. Known as an asset to the educational system, his great love of children, and his astute managerial skills, he was a dedicated educator and he will be greatly missed.

Tommy Swett, 70, of Lumberton, passed away May 18. Deeply devoted to his beloved Robeson County, Swett served as director of the Odom Home, and as a teacher and coach at Les Maxwell School in Fayetteville, where he was instrumental in starting the baseball program. He returned to Robeson County as a counselor at Orrum High School, and ended his professional career at UNC-Pembroke, after serving 28 years as an administrator of the Upper Bound Program. Considered an outstanding spiritual leader in the Lumbee community, Swett and his wife served for 25 years as board members of CBM Ministries in Fairmont. The Swetts were the parents of five children.

On May 26, as part of a joint resolution to express profound gratitude for their sacrifices, the House Clerk read the names of soldiers from North Carolina who died in Iraq and Afghanistan since May 2008. Included in the list of casualties was **Lance Cpl. Jeriad P. Jacobs**, a 19 year-old Marine from Clayton, who was killed while on patrol after less than three months in Iraq. He was the nephew of Rep. Ronnie Sutton of Robeson County.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sept. 11
N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs Meeting
Location TBA

Oct. 11-16
National Congress of American Indians
Palm Springs, Calif.

Dec. 4
N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs Meeting
Location TBA

INDIAN TIME

Summer 2009

Indian Time is published by the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs.
The newsletter is designed to highlight activities and issues of importance to the American Indian people of North Carolina.

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1317 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, N.C. 27699-1317 (919) 807-4440

COMMISSION MEMBERS Indian Representatives

Coharie Indian Tribe

Gene Faircloth ~ Isabell Freeman-Elliott

Cumberland County Association for Indian People

Barbara Melvin ~ Roy Maynor

Eastern Band of Cherokee

Patrick H. Lambert

Guilford Native American Association

Frances Stewart Lowry

Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe

Barry Richardson ~ Ruth Ealing

Sappony Tribe

Shelia Wilson

Lumbee Indian Tribe

Furnie Lambert ~ Larece Hunt ~ J. Garth Locklear

Meherrin Tribe

TBA

Metrolina Native American Association

Robin Lynn Strickland

Occaneechi Band of Saponi Nation

Sharn M. Jeffries

Triangle Native American Society

Brett A. Locklear

Waccamaw-Siouan Indian Tribe

Elton Ray Jacobs ~ Lila Spaulding

STATE OFFICIALS

N.C. Department of Administration

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