

Summer 2005

From the Executive Director's Desk...

Remembering Chief Jacobs

The summer edition of the *Indian Time* newsletter is being dedicated to Chief James Parnell Jacobs, who suddenly passed away July 22, 2005, at his home in Fayetteville, N.C. Chief Jacobs represented the Cumberland County Association for Indian People on the N.C. Commission of Indian

Affairs from 1982 to 1994.

Chief Jacobs was born on June 19, 1920, in Sampson County, N.C., during a period of time in which overt discrimination existed in North Carolina against American Indians and few opportunities were available to obtain a college education. While he was not an academically trained person, he educated himself and became a very successful businessman, leader in the community and politician in Cumberland County. Despite the obstacles that he faced, he became very successful and developed quite an extensive resume during his lifetime as an Indian leader in Cumberland County and as a leader at Cape Fear Baptist Church where he served as a deacon from November 1985 until his death this year.

Chief Jacobs was a recipient of the Thomas Jefferson Award in 1985, and in 1992 the N.C. Indian Housing Authority dedicated its administrative offices, located on Saponi Road in Fayetteville, in his honor. He was elected to the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs in 1982 and served as chairman of the Human Resources Committee, worked to establish the N.C. Indian Cultural Center (charter member) in Robeson County and the N.C. Indian Housing Authority in Fayetteville, N.C., just to name a few of the projects that he worked on as an advocate for North Carolina Indians. Additionally, he was very instrumental in the establishment of the Cumberland County Association for Indian People located on Indian Drive in Fayetteville, N.C. The association is one of four urban Indian organizations located in North Carolina.

As a businessman, Chief Jacobs and his lovely wife of 63 years, Viola, developed Jacobs Carpet and Tile business. That business provided an opportunity for his family to become self-sufficient, to provide a much-needed service in Cumberland County and employment opportunities for other family members.

Chief Jacob has left a legacy of hard work, community involvement and many successes that anyone would be

proud of, but especially those in the American Indian community. His legacy will live on through his family, his church, his business and through the many Indian organizations that he supported through his work. On behalf of the commission membership, please join me in an expression of sympathy to the Jacobs family.

Congress Considers an Apology for American Indians

Finally, Congress is considering legislation that would have the effect of officially apologizing to American Indians. It will take more than an apology to right all of the wrongs that have been placed upon American Indians, especially those on reservations who live in some of the most impoverished communities in the United States. Many Indian leaders, including the leadership of the National Congress of American Indian, believe that an apology is worthless without funding programs designed to address poverty, unemployment and the poor health of American Indians.

Indian gaming and casinos have improved conditions in a few Indian communities; however, the majority of them still remain in poverty and without a way out. About 30 percent of the 538,300 American Indians on reservations live in poverty, and due to the lack of accurate data, no one really knows how many American Indians who reside outside the boundaries of Indian reservations are affected by this health issue.

A congressional apology to American Indians would mean that the U.S. government has finally given the same respect that it has officially offered to two other groups in America. In 1993 Congress apologized to native Hawaiians for overthrowing their kingdom and in 1998 to Japanese Americans for their forced detention during World War II. African Americans have yet to receive a muchdeserved apology for the horrors of slavery, after a bill introduced in 2000 failed.

The resolution was prepared by Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan

*REF: H.J.RES.98 Title: To acknowledge a long history of official depredations and ill-conceived policies by the United States government regarding Indian tribes and offer an apology to all Native Peoples on behalf of the United States.

Greg Richardson Executive Director N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs

Community Services

NHI Provides Preventative Health Education

The Native Health Initiative (NHI), a program out of an international organization for medical students and supported by the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs, wound up its first pilot project in the Waccamaw-Siouan tribal community. The project was highly successful, and the community was immensely grateful for the young men and women who offered up their summer vacation to come and provide preventative health education to the



Five medical students worked with the Waccamaw-Siouan tribal community through the Native Health Initiative this summer. Interns were (above, from left) Sabina Fattah, Norway; Ervin Kallfa, Albania; Thomas Sweets, Ohio; Brian Eichinger, Winston-Salem, N.C.; and Ankoor Soni, Michigan. Chief Rosco Jacobs (below) was joined by Fattah, Eichinger and children from the tribe for this photo.



tribe. There were two international students from Norway and Albania and three American students. The group provided health screenings, nutrition and cooking classes, one-on-one counseling and healthy youth activities. It is the hope of the NHI to bring students back to Indian communities next year.

Mini-Grants Available

The Health and Wellness Trust Fund of North Carolina approved funding for the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs again for the third year. All tribes and organizations have been informed of the mini-grant opportunities available for a youth smoking cessation program in their community.

Assessing Services and Funding Needs

The Community Services Program is evaluating its services and ways to improve. Each community developer in the area served by this program is working very closely with their division of aging counterpart to assess services and funding needs.

Economic Development

NCIEDI Seeks Executive Director

James Hardin resigned from the N.C. Indian Economic Development Initiative in June 2005. Hardin accepted a position as deputy tribal administrator with the Lumbee Tribe. We wish him continued success in this new endeavor.

The NCIEDI is currently in the process of hiring a successor and hopes to make an announcement in the near future.

N.C. HUBZone and Federal Procurement Conference

Approximately 200 people attended the N.C. HUBZone and Federal Procurement Conference at the Southeastern Agricultural Center in Lumberton on Aug. 18. The one-day conference brought together business owners and representatives from federal agencies in need of business contractors. Participants had the opportunity to learn about HUBZones, how the program works, eligibility requirements and strategies to better prepare their business.

Federal exhibitors included the U.S. departments of Agriculture, Housing and Urban Development, Transportation, Treasury, Veterans Affairs and the General Services Administration. Agencies representing the state, local and private sectors were also on hand. The N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs staff assisted in the planning of this conference. Conference sponsors included the UNC-Pembroke, Carolina Commerce and Technology Center and the Lumbee Tribe. With the success of this event, it is sure to be an annual event.

Educational Talent Search

U.S. Department of Education Has Yet to Release RFP for Talent Search

It is time to write a new Educational Talent Search Program grant proposal. While Congress has reinstated funding for Talent Search, the budget is not final and numerous changes to program operations are pending. The change with the greatest impact to our program is the reduction in the number of schools served. Our program currently serves 24 schools, and the recommendation is that we reduce that number to 10. This will have a huge impact on two of our counties with numerous schools that are small in number of students served at each school. Mickey Locklear and the ETS staff are currently deciding how to provide optimal services while meeting the U.S. Department of Education guidelines.

NCNAYO's Youth Conference Featured In Winston-Salem Journal

The 26th Annual North Carolina Native American Youth Organization youth conference was held June 7–10 at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C. The annual conference provided an opportunity for over 300 American Indian students to learn more about their Indian heritage, explore educational opportunities, and work together on issues and concerns of Indian youth. Other special events included a powwow, Mister and Miss NCNAYO pageants, talent show, basketball tournament, an awards banquet, and art and essay contests.

Highlights of the conference included the lighting of the "UNITY Fire" ceremony; the keynote banquet speaker DJ Vanas, author of "The Tiny Warrior," who signed books for each participant; and making front page of the Winston-Salem Journal. Three \$500 college scholarships were awarded to graduating seniors at the conference.

ETS Seniors Participate in a College Survival Skills Workshop

Forty-three seniors were treated to a four-day trip to Washington, D.C. While in Washington, the students visited the University of Maryland for a half-day recruitment event, toured the National Museum of the American Indian and other museums on the National Mall. Additionally, they toured the Arlington National Cemetery and other national monuments.

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 featuring a discussion of the first year by three Indian students who had just completed their freshman year of college. The students enjoyed a day at King's Dominion theme park while en route home.

Salute to the Youth Awards Banquet

The Educational Talent Search Program, in conjunction with the Haliwa-Saponi Tribal School, Warren County Indian Education, Halifax County Indian Education, Saponi Warriors Against Tobacco (S.W.A.T.), and the Haliwa-Saponi Culture Group, sponsored the tribe's first- ever youth awards banquet. With over 100 people in attendance, more than 100 awards were given out. Youth from all ages were rewarded for their many talents as dancers, craftsmen and leaders, as well as for their educational achievements. The banquet consisted of native music from the Red Earth singers, Stoney Creek, and other musical entertainment from Brooke Mills and Ko Ann Rudd. It was truly an evening of honor.

Substance Abuse and Awareness

Program Funds Decreased

The commission received notice in July that the Substance Abuse Prevention and Awareness Program will be funded for another year, through a contract with the N.C. Department of Health and Human Service, Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Abuse Services. However, the contract award will be much less than the previous fiscal year due to funding cutbacks at the state level. The effective date of the contract was Aug. 1, 2005. As a result of the decrease in funding, it is anticipated that only one of the full-time staff positions will be retained during the next fiscal year.

Workforce Development (WIA Section 166)

The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) program is a federal employment and training program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Labor/Employment and Training Administration/Division of Indian and Native American Programs. In carrying out its mandate and objectives, the Commission of Indian Affairs operates a WIA Section 166 workforce development program that targets the needs of unemployed, underemployed and low-income American Indians in North Carolina. Through our workforce development program, we may be able to assist you in your endeavor to further your education and expand your job skills.

In our provision of Section 166 WIA services, and consistent with WIA law and regulations at 20 CFR §668.300, program applicants who are enrolled members of state- or federally recognized tribes, Alaska Natives and Native Hawaiians may be availed services through the workforce development program of the Commission of Indian Affairs.

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Under WIA, the commission's geographic service delivery area spans 59 of the state's 100 counties. The remaining 41 counties are designated among six other Indian grantees in the state: Cumberland County Association for Indian People; Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians; Guilford Native American Association; Haliwa-Saponi Indian Tribe; Lumbee Regional Development Association; and Metrolina Native American Association. Commission of Indian Affairs WIA assistance is provided via field offices and staff located within the Indian communities.

Commission WIA Services

In the commission's Comprehensive Services Plan (CSP), the program is designed to provide Classroom Training, Work Experience, and Job Search and Placement Assistance services to eligible clients. In addition to these services, the commission's WIA program may provide supportive services such as employment-related services, transportation assistance, temporary housing assistance for trainees, etc. Supportive services may be provided to overcome barriers to employment or training that have been identified in a client's individual training and development plan, or through an appropriate contract, referral or follow-up service.

The ultimate goal of our assistance and services is to: (1) increase academic, occupational and literacy skills among the American Indian population; (2) increase American Indian workers' abilities to be competitive in the workforce, thus helping them to achieve personal and economic self-sufficiency, and (3) promote the social and economic development in North Carolina Indian communities.

Section 166 WIA program may be able to provide assistance to eligible participants who are high school dropouts while they are working toward completing their high school diploma requirements (or GED). We offer assistance in the form of supporting part-time subsidized employment through our Adult Work Experience component. In addition to part-time subsidized employment, other assistance may also be available.

For applicants who have completed their high school diploma (or equivalent) requirements, the Section 166 WIA program may be able to provide assistance for tuition, books, fees, supplies, and an attendance incentive payment based on attendance and satisfactory progress in a curriculum program at one of the state's 59 community colleges. For example, in recent years the Commission of Indian Affairs WIA program has sponsored (and assisted with the successful graduation of) students in the following North Carolina Community College curricula: information systems technology, nursing (LPN, RN, CNA I, CNA II), business administration, early childhood development, pharmacy technology, general occupational technology, dental hygiene technology, human services technology, medical assisting technology and college transfer. This list is not all-inclusive, as the global

workforce is highly competitive and its demands on our training programs continue to change.

In order to determine eligibility for the commission's Section 166 WIA program, a program application must be completed and submitted to one of our WIA offices. The commission's workforce development staff in the Sampson County field office is Joanna Chance (910) 564-6726. Our Columbus County WIA field office can be reached via e-mail (nccia@bellsouth.net) or phone, (910) 655-8708. Individuals seeking workforce development services can contact one of our offices or an office of one of the above service providers closest to them, or contact the nearest North Carolina Job Link Career Center office.

Sue Jacobs, Columbus County NCCIA WIA Coordinator, Retires

On June 30, 2005, the commission lost one of its most valued employees to retirement. Loretta S. Jacobs, better known to most as "Sue," retired with 27 years of state government service. Sue is a member of the Waccamaw-Siouan Indian Tribe and a lifetime resident of Columbus County. During her career with the Commission of Indian Affairs, she has provided excellent representation of the agency and its service programs to her tribal community, as well as to local service agencies in Columbus County and surrounding area.

Sue was initially employed at the commission at its Columbus County field office located in the Waccamaw-Siouan Tribal Center on July 10, 1978, as a manpower developer under the commission's first employment and training program, the Comprehensive Employment and Training Program (CETA). She has witnessed several changes to service programs in the community and, as an American Indian workforce development professional, has experienced firsthand the changes in Indian and Native American workforce development programs. Through changes from CETA to the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) in 1983, to the implementation of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) in 1998, Sue has adapted and helped to model these programs to fit the needs of her community and continued to provide positive outcomes for American Indians in the Waccamaw-Siouan community.

Over the years, Sue worked within her tribal community, providing various levels of employment and training services and assistance to American Indians and seeing their long-term growth and prosperity that resulted from the fruits of her labor. Not only has she provided assistance in all areas of workforce development, she has also provided assistance in other ways in the community —oftentimes outside of the requirements of the job. Many commission programs and initiatives, as well as other tribal activities, were successfully carried out in the Waccamaw-Siouan tribal community through Sue's outreach and assistance. Sue's years of great service to the commission and the tribal community are

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highly commendable; such expertise will be difficult to replace.

Sue's plans are to initially travel and then continue doing volunteer work in the local community. While she's retired from state government service, Sue says that she'll always be close by and "continue to help out wherever I can."

Elk Richardson, director of the commission's workforce development programs, says that Sue's retirement leaves a void in the steady provision of high-level services to the Waccamaw community. Efforts are under way to fill the position as soon as possible. Currently, the job description is being reviewed before formally posting the position announcement. Upon posting the job announcement and Human Resources' receipt and screening of applications, commission management will proceed to conduct interviews of the highest qualified applicants.

Until the vacancy is filled, please direct any calls, inquiries or questions about the position or Commission of Indian Affairs WIA program services at the Waccamaw-Siouan Tribal Office to Elk Richardson, director of American Indian Workforce Development Programs, at 1317 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1317; phone: (919) 733-5998. Elk may also be contacted via e-mail at Elk.Richardson@ncmail.net.

All interested persons are encouraged to apply for this position after it is advertised on the N.C. Department of Administration's job vacancy list.

Commission Nominates Locklear For Native American Program Advisory Council

In March of this year, the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs membership passed action to forward its nomination of William Locklear (WIA director for the Lumbee Regional Development Association) to the U.S. Department of Labor for appointment to the Native American Programs Advisory Council. Locklear, an incumbent advisory council member representing USDOL, Region III, has nearly 30 years of American Indian workforce development program experience and has represented the region well during his tenure on the council. In addition to the commission's nomination, the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians tribe has forwarded its nomination of Kimlyn S. Lambert (training supervisor/Workforce Training Programs, Cherokee Education and Training Department, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians) for the Region III appointment.

Region III is a USDOL - designated geographic area comprising the Southeastern United States and includes 16 American Indian workforce development grantees that serve the states of Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee. The region has two grantee-representatives on the council, each appointed to staggered terms. The commission's WIA director, Elk Richardson, is the other Region III representative on the council. Richardson's term expires Aug. 18, 2006.

The council provides advice to the Secretary of Labor regarding the provision of employment and training services to Native Americans through federal workforce development programs.

State Recognition Issues

Since 1979, the Commission of Indian Affairs has administered procedures for the official state recognition of previously unrecognized American Indian groups. Agency staff administers these procedures with the help of a 12-member Special Committee on Recognition, comprised of representatives of each American Indian tribe and urban American Indian organization legislatively seated on the commission. The Meherrin Indian tribe was granted state recognition under these procedures in 1986. Triangle Native American Society was granted state recognition as an Indian organization in 2000. The Occaneechi Band of the Saponi Nation was denied recognition under these procedures in 1995 but won recognition on legal appeal to the N.C. Court of Appeals in 2002.

North Carolina Tribal Recognition Procedures

The rules that govern the process for state recognition of American Indian tribes may be found at the following Web site: http://www.doa.state.nc.us/cia/legal.pdf.

Key factors that are addressed during the tribal recognition process are the petitioning group's ability to trace their ancestry back to American Indian tribes indigenous to North Carolina for at least the last 200 years; the petitioner's submission of a list ("tribal roll") of its inter-related members; and the petitioning group's satisfaction of five of eight criteria that address various aspects of historic American Indian tribal identity in North Carolina.

In early 2002, a workgroup began drafting language for suggested revisions to the state's official procedures for the legal recognition of American Indian tribes. Commission staff and recognition committee representatives are continuing their work with N.C. Department of Administration attorneys in reviewing and discussing key issues in administrative rulemaking and the process of recognizing American Indian tribes in North Carolina, in an effort to assure that the rulemaking process proceeds as smoothly and expeditiously as possible.

Since their approval by the full Commission of Indian Affairs at its June 3 meeting, the draft revisions to the recognition procedures are now proceeding through the state's formal rulemaking process. The rulemaking process is administered through the N.C. Office of Administrative Hearings according to the Administrative Procedures Act.

The rules have been published in *The North Carolina Register*, and a public hearing was held Aug. 26. Written comments regarding the rules revisions may be submitted to: Gregory A. Richardson, Executive Director, N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs, 1317 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1317; fax #: (919) 733-1207.

Mark Your Calendar

September

Sept. 10-11 - 35th Annual Coharie Powwow, Coharie Tribal Center 7531 Highway 421 North, Clinton, N.C. Contact Chief Gene Faircloth, (910) 592-5488

Sept. 16-18 - 29th Annual Guilford Native American Association Powwow, Greensboro Country Park, Greensboro, N.C. Contact Rick Oxendine, (336) 273-6605

Sept. 23-25 - Indian Trail Powwow, Indian Trail Elementary School, Indian Trail, N.C., Contact Letha Strickland, (704) 926-1524

October

Oct. 30- Nov. 4 - National Congress of American Indian Conference, Tulsa, Okla. Contact NCAI at (202) 466-7767.

November

American Indian Heritage Month

Nov. 4 - N.C. Indian Senior Citizens Conference. In recognition of the North Carolina Indian Senior Citizens Coalition "Celebrating 25 Years Together," the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs will honor our American Indian seniors by hosting an health summit on Nov. 4 at the Holiday Inn I-95, Fayetteville, N.C. The summit will begin at noon with a luncheon. Space is limited, so please register early! All participants must pre-register by Oct. 1. For more information, please contact Kimberly Hammonds at (919) 733-5998.

Nov. 19 - Indian Heritage Month Celebration, N.C. Museum of History, Raleigh, N.C. For more information, please call the N.C. Museum of History at (919) 807-7979.

December

Dec. 2 - N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs Quarterly Meeting, Raleigh, N.C., location to be announced.

Notice

The American Indian Health Summit was canceled and the quarterly meeting of the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs was postponed following Gov. Mike Easley's directive for the suspension of all non-essential state government travel.

The summit was planned for Sept. 7-8 at the Southeastern N.C. Agricultural Center in Lumberton. It was to be hosted by the commission, located in the Department of Administration, and the Office of Minority Health and Health Disparities in the N.C. Department of Health and Human Services.

The quarterly commission meeting was scheduled for Sept. 9, also at the Southeastern N.C. Agricultural Center. The meeting is expected to be rescheduled at a later date, according to Paul Brooks, commission chairman.

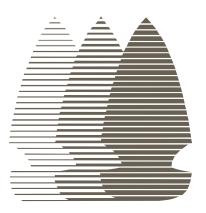
The governor's directive was issued because of Hurricane Katrina's impact on the fuel resources available to the state.

Interns Complete Successful Summer Projects

The 2005 Summer Internship Project at the Commission of Indian Affairs was very successful. The commission's two interns were **Elizabeth (Beth) Jacobs** (Lumbee) and **Kiley Brown**.

Beth, a law student at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, researched statutes and regulations relative to Indian and non-Indian land trust. She developed a good resource file for the commission on this subject, developed an Indian land trust brochure, and created a set of draft procedures that can be used to guide the process of developing internal or external Indian land trust procedures. Finally, Beth developed a draft land trust agreement, which will be used as a guide for the commission as it established future Indian land trust agreements.

Kiley, a Teaching Fellow at UNC-Greensboro where she is majoring in education and has plans to enter a graduate program for counselor education, developed a Financial Aid Directory for the commission's Educational Talent Search program. The directory consists of 120 pages of financial aid resource information.



Highlights and Announcements

State Indian Affairs Director Chairs U.S. Census Committee

Greg Richardson, director of the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs, has been elected chairman of the U.S. Census Advisory Committee on American Indian and Alaska Native Populations. The national committee is responsible for collecting information and advising the U.S. Census Bureau regarding its plan, procedures and programs associated with the 2010 U.S. Census.

"I am very proud of Greg," said Secretary Gwynn Swinson of the N.C. Department of Administration, which houses the Commission of Indian Affairs. "This position will enable him to help shape future census policies and data collection efforts for American Indians throughout the United States."

During his one-year term as chair, Richardson will lead committee meetings, prepare committee recommendations and submit them to the director of the U.S. Census Bureau for review and action. Richardson, who has served on the census advisory committee since 1997, is a member of the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe. He has been director of the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs since 1995.

Indian Resource Directory Will Help Preserve Rich Heritage

Each year the N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs and its affiliated tribes and organizations receive numerous requests from individuals, schools and organizations to make presentations about North Carolina Indians, Indian issues, program, etc. We feel a strong obligation to ensure the preservation of the rich heritage of each of the state's American Indian tribes, in celebrating the beauty and cultural significance that lives and thrives in today's American Indians through our songs, dances, arts, crafts and traditional spirituality.

In keeping with the mission and goals of the commission to increase public awareness of American Indians in the state of North Carolina, the commission will be creating a North Carolina American Indian Resource Directory. The selection of participants will be based on but not limited to membership in a state- or federally recognized tribe, knowledge of the culture and history of North Carolina tribes, knowledge of state and national Indian issues and, finally, knowledge of North Carolina's tribe and organizations.

The Culture and Religion Committee will review each request and make a final determination regarding the inclusion of the resource person in the directory and for consideration in other commission-sponsored events. We will notify you if you are selected for the American Indian Resource Directory.

There is a link to this form on our Web page at http://www.doa.state.nc.us/cia/indian.htm, or you may contact Kimberly Hammonds at (919) 733-5998.

INDIAN TIME

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

N.C. Commission of Indian Affairs 1317 Mail Service Center Raleigh, NC 27699-1317 (919) 733-5998

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