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NATIVE_NEWS: Re: Indian Killers Monument 'To be Re-erected in Milford, PA'

| From: Ish
| Subject: NATIVE_NEWS: Re: Indian Killers Monument 'To be Re-erected in Milford, PA'
| Date: Sat, 5 Jun 1999 09:54:06 -0700

And now: Ish <ishgooda@tdi.net> writes:

From: Robert Eurich <reurich@pikeonline.net>

I am well aware of this controversy as I live only 6 miles from Milford and sent word of the monument's destruction to Indian Country Today when the incident occurred in December 1997 around the anniversary of Wounded Knee. In fact, the local papers, knowing of my activities, contacted me looking for information. To date, the person or persons who smashed the stone pillar and inscriptions ("Tom Quick - Avenger of the Delawares") have yet to be found.

There are just a few points that I would like to touch upon concerning this matter.

First, while there is no doubt in my mind that Tom Quick was a bloodythirsty maniac and a product of his time, it should also be said that the details of his life may have gained something in the telling. In short, it's hard to distinguish here what is folklore and what is truth. Having grown up around these stories I have heard many various details over and over. This is not intended to defend Quick. I am sickened by the thought of his atrocities and oppose the monument. Rather, it is just my opinion that, as dramatic as they sound, stories like that concerning his deathbed scene and the actual number of victims need to be taken with a grain of salt.

Secondly, the newspaper account did indeed say the borough intends to table the issue. Whether this is just a political subterfuge or is the council's actual plan remains to be seen. I would not put a diversionary ploy past them and have heard that the monument has been reconstructed and rests in an iron working shop that is owned by one of Quick's descendants who is also, I believe, involved with the borough's police department.

Finally, having bitter first-hand knowledge about this, I feel compelled to say that there are some *very* unscrupulous wannabes in this area who have passed themselves off as FN for their own selfish reasons. For instance, a few years ago a powwow was held in Hawley, PA, also not far from Milford, that touted itself as something like the "Festival of the Wakan(sp?) Bear." It was apparently put together by someone who goes by the name of "Wounded Bear" whose son calls himself "Little Bear." Their last name was Burke. In addition to attending that event myself, a FN friend of mine, who has been a craftsman

and storyteller for many years, had taken a booth space there. Sometime later we spoke and he told me of how the vendors had been ripped off, people were selling who shouldn't have been, visitors were being accosted, lies and double-talk taking place. He was real down on the organizers and I feel he's in a position to know about these things. Needless to say, it was a one-time event.

Around this same time the school brought this "Little Bear" to a board meeting to support their position on the school's "Red Raider" mascot. This person came to the meeting wearing a breastplate and big silver necklace. "This is how us modern Indians dress." he said. The crowd and unusally large media contingent ate it up. He then went on to say how words like "redskins" honor Indian people ("It represents the red blood that people of all colors share.") and how involved he was with AIM and how his group would be happy to design a "respectable" logo for the school or would come in to do some "educating" (for a fee, of course)... If I recall correctly, the name of his group was the Pennsylvania Native American Intertribal Association, an organization that I could find no listing or contact information for anywhere and that was unknown to the NCAI. After the meeting, when I gently inquired about his heritage he only said, "I have relatives out west."

Long story short, I do not wish to disparage Elaine Van Raper (cherokee@skylands.net) or the "Native American Historical Truth Association," neither of whom I know, although her name does sound familiar. Perhaps all is as it should be and everyone is on the level. It's just that past experience tells me a little caution here might not be unreasonable.

I plan on attending the June 13 rally and will convey any other news about this that I come upon.

Robert

Ish wrote:

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> From: Ish <ishgooda@tdi.net>
>
> _____
>
> O'siyo,
>
> The following information came from Elaine Van Raper,
> Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of Country Road Chronicles!
> CRC heavily supports the campaign to free Leonard Peltier!
>
> --+++++-----
> [Note: Please feel free to redistribute as long
> as no changes are made to the document.]
> --+++++-----
>
> Indian Killers Monument 'To be Re-erected in Milford, PA'
> "1st Amendment Event to be held on, June 13, 1999"
>
> by Elaine Van Raper
> "Native American Historical Truth Association"
> the People's Voice - Tuesday, May 11, 1999
> Copyright NAHTA - All rights reserved
>
> The Native American Historical Truth Association
> (NAHTA) is sponsoring a 1st Amendment Event to be
> held on, June 13, 1999. The rally is being held to stop the
> re-erection of the monument to honor Tom Quick. The
> plans include drumming, dancers, and speakers to show
> that "Indians are people too", in a very racist town.
>
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> Tom Quick was a frontiersman in the 1700s who saw his
 > father killed by a moving band of Indians (Shawnee, it
 > is believed) at the end of the French Indian Wars. He
 > vowed to take revenge and kill as many Indians as he
 > could in his lifetime, which he did do during peacetime,
 > including; men, women, and children, totaling 99 people.
 > Quick begged for one more on his deathbed to make it
 > an even 100.
 >
 > Quick was the first man to use germ warfare, he got
 > smallpox infested blankets and gave them to the
 > neighboring tribes. He, himself, contracted smallpox
 > and died from it. The Indians cut him up and passed
 > his bones around to prove to the tribes that the
 > murderer was dead, which spread the disease, so he
 > actually did wind up killing more than 100 Indian people.
 >
 > The town of Milford put up a monument in his honor in the
 > 1800s, actually it was a descendent of Tom Quick's. People
 > protested, but there were not enough voices. The monument
 > was vandalized in 1997 and the town intends to have a
 > re-dedication ceremony in August 1999.
 >
 > This monument condones violence, murder, and racism.
 > It's time for that to stop, however, Milford doesn't
 > want to let go of their history, even if it is bad.
 >
 > People from all over the world, including Japan,
 > have signed a petition to stop this monument from being
 > re-erected. A pro-bono lawyer's help is needed. A lawyer
 > who could file a decree to stop this monument forever,
 > because the borough president and the people are only
 > telling untruths about 'tabling' the re-erection of the
 > monument. The rally is set for June 13, 1999. It is
 > guessed they're waiting for the rally to be over.
 >
 > --++++--
 > Start just below: print, mark, cut, copy,
 > paste and send by FAX, mail or email
 > to the addresses listed below!
 > --++++--
 >
 > Petition Against Legendary Mass-Murderer
 > Honored by Milford, PA
 >
 > A monument in Milford, Pennsylvania
 > is about to be re-erected to honor Tom Quick,
 > The Indian Slayer.
 > How can people honor and praise a man
 > who assassinated the native people of the
 > tri-state area?
 > How can people condone the actions of
 > a mass murderer and teach our children that
 > murdering and stealing from another group
 > of people is a good thing.
 > We must all come together as Brothers and
 > Sisters, Indians & non-Indians, to tell the true
 > history of our ancestors and stop this monument
 > dedicated to a madman from being re-erected.
 > We need your help & support. Please sign
 > your name and address below, print or copy the
 > document and email, send by postal mail or
 > FAX to the:
 >
 > Native American Historical

