

# Paul Green Foundation

## NEWS – August 2013

### Paul Green and Harnett County Lumbees



In September 1960, Paul Green received a letter from Marshall W. Locklear the director of guidance and counseling at Pembroke High School. Knowing how Paul Green felt about public education, he wanted to alert him to a situation in Green's home county and to ask for his help.

It seems that the year before, several Harnett County Lumbee children had applied for admission to the high school nearest their homes, the white school in Dunn, but were turned down. Harnett County operated three school systems: one for whites, one for blacks, and one for Indians. But there were no high schools for Indian students in Harnett County – they had to be bused to the East Carolina Indian Institute – a daily 70- mile round trip. They were denied again the fall of 1960 and this time the students and their parents were arrested for trespassing (*New York Times*, 1 Sept. 1960). When it became clear that the Lumbees would not be allowed to attend Dunn High School, the American Friends Service Committee placed eleven of them in private homes in Raleigh, Greensboro and High Point.

Paul Green was asked to undertake the job of raising money for their expenses. Contributions came from the city of Dunn, throughout the state, from the American Baptist convention, and from Eleanor Roosevelt. In the fall of 1961, the Harnett County school board admitted the Lumbees to Dunn High School and again the *New York Times* covered the story.

When Paul Green was posthumously inducted into the North Carolina Education Hall of Fame, Betsy Green Moyer and I first met one of those former students: **Juanita Chance Caldwell** – she is now a Friend of the Foundation. She told us: “My cousin, Jean, and I went to High Point. I met Mr. Green at his home in Chapel Hill. He was instrumental in helping with getting homes for the children to live in while waiting for the judge to hear the lawsuit and make a ruling. He also helped with money and getting others to help with lawyers' fees and there is no telling what all his involvement was with our attending an all white school. I never realized at that time how important Mr. Green was.”

CITY  
LIGHTS  
BOOKSTORE



Gary Carden's *Appalachian Bestiary*. On September 1<sup>st</sup>, my husband, Dave, and I had an opportunity to go out west to Sylva, NC on our way to a wedding in Tuckasegee, NC. **Betsy Caddell**, the Foundation's office assistant from 2003-2005 was getting married. Betsy graduated from UNC and is now a pharmacist.

So we stopped over at City Lights Bookstore in Sylva to hear Gary Carden talk about his latest book. He was joined by the illustrator, **Mandy Newham-Cobb** who had driven all the way from Philadelphia for the event. As Gary puts it, his book (complete with footnotes) features “...wondrous creatures that run the gamut from whimsy to spine-tingling terror: the weeping ‘Squont’ and the backward flying ‘Pongreen Bird’; the Hoop Snake, the shy Tree Squeak, the Axehandle Hound, and the legendary beasts of the Cherokees such as the ‘Uktena’; and the terrifying products of mass paranoia like the supernatural ‘Painters’ and the ‘Vampire Beast of Bladenboro.’ All are drawn from the same deep well – the oral tradition of the southern mountains.”



Gary Carden is author of numerous plays including *The Outlander* that tells the story of Horace Kephart and the Great Smoky Mountains and was the recipient of the 2012 Paul Green Playwrights Fellowship through Parkway Playhouse in Burnsville, NC.

*Gary and Marsha smiling about his new book.*  
Photo by Livingston Kelley

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