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Survey Resoundingly Against Robeson Savings & Loan Branch In Pembroke

BY BRUCE BARTON

43 professional and business people in and about the town of Pembroke were surveyed in a poll by this reporter. 30 of those surveyed said "no" to this question: "Are you in favor of Robeson Savings and Loan Association establishing a branch office in Pembroke?" 6 people were neutral on the question and 7 were in favor of Robeson Savings and Loan establishing a branch office in Pembroke.

SOME RESPONSES, PRO & CON

In responding to the question, many people in Pembroke spoke harshly against the proposal, reviving memories of Pembroke's painful past.

Said one interviewee, "It smacks of condescension. Where were they when we needed them?"

Another said, "If they come to town it will forestall the possibility of the Pembroke community ever establishing their own savings and loan, when the appropriate moment comes..."

But most of those interviewed were concerned about the effect the branch office would have on Lumbee Bank, a bank owned predominately by Indians.

"They are coming to rip us off...we need to support Lumbee Bank, a creation of Indian people."

"They would take away from Lumbee Bank and First Union, we need to support them."

"We will need a savings and loan soon but not now. We need to give Lumbee Bank time to get on its feet financially."

THE OTHER SIDE

Some Indian businessmen encouraged Robeson Savings and Loan to come to town, inferring that the competition would be good for the customer.

"I don't care if it is the Ku Klux Klan, we need the service a savings and loan would

IEA Committee Meets

At the meeting of the Title IV-A Parent Committee of the Robeson County Compensatory Indian Education Project held on Monday, November 28, at the O.P. Owens Auditorium, several items of business were discussed and approved as part of the FY 79 program planning and development process.

A quorum was readily recognized with 31 members of the Parent Committee and 1 Alternate member in attendance. Also in attendance were ten guests/visitors and 26 members of the Title IV-A Project Staff.

Ms. Ruth Dial Woods, Project Director, discussed rules and regulations for making project applications; categories for programs and service under the auspices of Title IV-A Indian Education programs, and procedures for developing a process to determine the educational and cultural needs of Indian students. Ms. Janice Oxendine, a member of the Parent Committee and of the Subcommittee on Needs Assessment, reported on the meeting of this subcommittee on November 13.

A preview copy of the FY 79 Needs Assessment instrument to gather data for program planning and development purposes was reviewed by the Parent Committee and approved. Also approved by the Parent Committee was a change in program implementation for the Emergency Medical, Health and Dental Services Component in order to provide for services for Indian students.

Ms. Woods announced that the amended by-laws had been forwarded for review and approval by the IEA Board. A calendar of future meetings of the Parent Committee was approved. Also announced were plans for an Open House to be held at First American Warehouse on December 16, 1977 from 7:00-10:00 where exhibits and displays relative to Title IV-A Indian Education programs and services will be available for perusal of the public as well as Indian students and parents and a proposed schedule of field visits for members of the Program Monitoring and Evaluation Subcommittee to school sites to view the Title IV-A program operations.

provide the citizens of the town."

Another said, "I am for it. It should have happened 25 years ago."

One Indian businessman said, "I would have to be for it, I have a lot of money invested in it in savings."

Another businessman interviewed said, "I am for it. It would make the other financial institutions work harder. Besides a savings and loan is mostly concerned with long term mortgages anyway. I don't see how it would hurt either of the banks in the long run."

OTHER CONCERNS

Some of those interviewed were mostly concerned about the lack of Indian employment at Robeson Savings and Loan and the fact that no Indian (or black) has ever served on the board of directors of the financial institution.

One interviewee said, "I will be against it as long as there is a lack of Indian

participation. It is a reminder of the past, Pates Supply Company, the governor appointing the mayor and city council, etc."

Another said, "I will always be against it as long as no Indians have anything to do with the management of it."

One of those polled said, "Pembroke needs a savings and loan but we need to establish it ourselves. If Robeson Savings and Loan comes to town that will kill that possibility forever."

Those interviewed were given a cloak of anonymity so that they could respond freely. A careful record has been kept of those polled. Notarizing the accuracy of the poll is the fact that those polled will recognize their responses.

The minority businessman's directory compiled by Lumbee Regional Development Association was used in the survey as well as a random sampling of the Pembroke business community.

WILLIAM L. (BILL) OXENDINE AND TBS SERVICE CO.

by Connie Bravbov

"All great ideas begin as a dream. Someone has a dream, believes it can be done and works diligently to achieve that dream. Then the dream becomes a reality. I believe if you want to do something you can do it. And you don't have to make a whole lot of commotion to do it. You just ease out and do it and things begin to fall into place."

The above statement was made by William L. (Bill) Oxendine of Pembroke who does not find anything unusual or outstanding about a man succeeding in one business after having served until retirement in another career.

Oxendine is President of TBS Service Co., Inc. (The Best Service), a company which contracts food service and janitorial services. "What TBS does," said Oxendine, "is provide services for dining facilities for the United States Government, military bases in particular." TBS Service Co., Inc. operates three dining halls, one bake shop and one In Flight Kitchen at Maxwell Air Force Base in Montgomery, Alabama. In addition, it operates six dining halls at Eglin Air Force Base in Ft. Walton Beach, Florida.

Bill Oxendine has served in the United States Army and has retired after "twenty years and twenty-one days." After retirement from the Army, he went into Civil Service for seven years at Fort Bragg, NC—five of those years were spent in food service. He served as a Contract Monitor and Quality Assurance Specialist. During his years in food service, part of his responsibilities included helping to prepare food service contracts. In carrying out his duties, Oxendine became acquainted with Clarence Pharo who had the food service contract for Fort Bragg. Pharo offered assistance to Oxendine as he prepared to go into his own business. Said Oxendine, "I owe a lot to Clarence. He not only gave me direct assistance with paper work, but he is my friend."

Oxendine said that he had his dream of going into food service contracts for several years before he finally got it off the ground on October 1, 1976 which is the date he received the contract for Maxwell Air Force Base. "I had the idea in my head for quite some time. I even went so far as to discuss it with a local attorney, but the time was not right or something. Anyway, it did not get off the ground immediately," said Oxendine. "My brother and I (James Oxendine of Atlanta, Ga.) are very close, but somehow my idea just never came up for a few years." "One night I mentioned it to him, and things began to fall into place." TBS Service Co., Inc. is incorporated in the State of Georgia where Oxendine's brother is an attorney. Oxendine applied to the Small Business Administration Regional Office in Georgia through their minority program in 1974. His application was approved and accepted by the SBA and in 1976 they assigned him Maxwell Air Force Base's food service contract. Not only did TBS Service Co., Inc. supply the food service for Maxwell Air Force Base, it supplied outstanding food service. This year they were presented

an award for winning second place in outstanding food service in the United States Air Force. SBA not only assigned TBS the food service contract for the first year, but they also assigned a sponsor to teach how to operate and furnish all the finances for a percentage of the net profits for the first year. Sponsor for the first year was Happy I. Franklin from California. TBS Service Co., Inc. is composed of three persons: Oxendine, President; his wife, the former Lou Henry Lowry, Vice-President; and his brother who serves as Secretary-Treasurer. They have three offices, one in Atlanta, Georgia; one in Montgomery, Alabama; one at Eglin Air Force Base, Ft. Walton Beach, Florida. They employ between 175-200 personnel in the two bases. Oxendine is well known around Pembroke for his out-spoken manner. He has been very active in various civic affairs, including the Pembroke Senior High Booster Club and has served as Chairman of the Board of Commissioners for the Pembroke Housing Authority and Redevelopment Commission. Most people who know him will admit that he is not a politician, in the sense that we sometimes think of politicians as people who will say anything you want them to say in order to get what they are after. He is straight forward, blunt and directly to the point. After conversing with him a few minutes, you will find that he is just that way. He just says exactly what is on his mind with no fanfare. He does not hesitate to make his opinion known. If he does not agree with something, he says so quite frankly. He completed the tenth grade at Fairmont Indian School under the principalship of Mr. Albert Hunt. He remembers the late C.D. Brewington as an outstanding teacher. However, he says that, "Each teacher left some quality that I have carried with me. There is something about even the worst teacher that is good. They are all a part of me." He completed his schooling while in the Army. Mr. and Mrs. Oxendine are the parents of two children, Barbara Cummings and William L. Oxendine, Jr. Mrs. Oxendine is a teacher at Ashpole School and between flights to Alabama, Florida and Georgia, Mr. Oxendine is at home in Pembroke with his wife and son. He is the son of the late Roy Oxendine and Betty Hammonds Oxendine and for a few minutes he recalled the positive influence his parents had on his life. "They taught me to think good positive thoughts," he recalled. "There is no end to what can be accomplished if we all think positive thoughts. For instance, we should all learn to express positive thoughts in our speech. Instead of saying the glass is half empty, we should say the glass is half full. We need to look on the bright side of every situation." And Bill Oxendine is a living testament to his own beliefs. He had proven that nothing is impossible, not even the idea of two successful careers in one life time.

Local Receives Unique Navy Scholarship



Doug Campbell, Navy Recruiter, is shown left as he congratulates Joseph Brooks on his scholarship award. (Bruce Barton photo)

Joseph Anthony Brooks, son of Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Brooks of Pembroke, a 1977 graduate of Pembroke Senior High School, will depart Tuesday, December 6 for eight weeks basic training in San Diego, California.

He enlisted in the Navy on June 27, 1977 and with the help of Navy recruiters, Chief Doug Campbell and Petty Officer Ken Bean, he became the first Lumbee Indian to receive a full scholarship from the Navy under the BOOST program.

BOOST is a College Preparatory School for Selected enlisted Navy and Marine

Corps personnel. Acceptance to these programs is not guaranteed. The student must strive for acceptance through use of his own talents and diligence.

After finishing his basic training in San Diego, Mr. Brooks will attend one year of college prep courses at Monterey, California beginning March 1, 1978. Mr. Brooks has been accepted at the Citadel, a military college located in Charleston, South Carolina, where he plans to continue his education in Marine Biology. Upon completion of this schooling he will become a commissioned officer.

PSU 'BRAVES CLUB OFF AND RUNNING

BY GENE WARREN



JOE GALLAGHER

PEMBROKE--The charter members of the newly organized Pembroke State University "Braves Club" could not have been riding high Monday night at the initial dinner meeting here for them and their spouses.

They were truly in the clouds. The reasons? (1) Garry Henry, a PSU sophomore, had just won the NAIA national cross country championship at Kenosha, Wis.; and (2) the undefeated Braves' basketball team had just swept the Campbell Tip-Off Tournament championship, beating two NCAA Division I teams in the process.

"You organizers of the Braves Club know what you are doing," quipped PSU Chancellor English E. Jones. "First, you form the club; then, our athletes turn in three superlative performances back-to-back." It was a good omen, indicated Dr. Jones.

In a serious vein, Dr. Jones told the 107 people who gathered in the PSU Student Center: "If sports at this institution are going to be what they ought to become, it will depend upon the people in this room. In my 17 years at this university, this is the most significant thing that has been done to support our athletic program."

Dr. Jones said the PSU athletic teams have worked hard to win even without adequate financial support—but have won anyway. "These teams deserve all this community can muster in their behalf," urged the Chancellor. "You people have supported them by your very presence here tonight."

The 100 charter members of the "Braves Club" gave \$50 each since August in raising a quick \$5,000 for the new organization. Bruce Barton, chairman of the Braves Club's steering committee and master of ceremonies Monday night charged each of those present to sell three membership tickets each for (1) \$25 for individual memberships and (2) \$35 for family memberships.

"Let's make this Braves Club something



William L. (Bill) Oxendine

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people and places and things

IN THE ARMED FORCES

Lloyd G. Oxendine

Ft. Bragg, NC--Lloyd G. Oxendine, whose wife, Mary Alice, lives in Pembroke, recently was promoted to Army specialist five while serving as a survey computer operator with the XVIII Airborne Corps Artillery at Fort Bragg, NC.

He entered the Army in June 1971. The Specialist is a 1971 graduate of Pembroke High School. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Grover C. Oxendine, live on Route 1, Pembroke.

Sergeant Randy L. Bartley

Karlsruhe, Germany--Sergeant Randy L. Bartley, whose wife, Holly, and mother, Mrs. Earlene Bartley, live in Pembroke, recently was assigned as a communications team chief with the 72nd Signal Battalion in Karlsruhe, Germany.

Sgt. Bartley entered the Army in November, 1975. He is a 1972 graduate of Pembroke High School.

Private Rickie D. Strickland

Ft. Gordon, Georgia--Private Rickie D. Strickland, whose wife, Junie Faye, lives on Route 7, Hersey's Trailer Park, Lumberton, recently completed a radio teletypeoperator course at the U.S. Army Signal School, Ft. Gordon, Georgia.

During the training, students learned to operate radio transmitting and receiving sets, using voice and teletypewriter equipment.

Pvt. Strickland entered the Army last February. He attended Robeson Technical Institute in Lumberton. His parents, Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Strickland, live at 305 E. 18th St., Lumberton.

WRITER'S WORKSHOP TO BE HELD

The Robeson County Public Library, through a grant from the Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA) will hold a writer's workshop January 18 from 7-10 in the main reference room of the library. You are invited to participate. The writing workshop planned to simplify reference materials and develop a collection of high interest-low vocabulary materials for use by the new adult readers in the county. Resource persons will be available to assist new writers with clarity, variety, restating words and ideas, using word tools, favorite techniques and planning. No writing experience is necessary, just a willingness to participate.

WEEKEND REVIVAL PLANNED

A revival will begin at Union Chapel Community Church on Thursday night, December 1, 1977 and continue through Sunday night. Services will begin at 7 p.m. Ministers for the four-night revival are: The pastor of St. Pauls Church the Assembly of God; Rev. Roy Clark; Rev. Jerry Groves, pastor of Sandy Ridge Church near Fayetteville, NC. The pastor of Union Chapel Community Church is Rev. Monroe Woods who extends a cordial invitation to the public to attend these services.

PEMBROKE KIWANIS ANNOUNCE PANCAKE SUPPER

Pembroke Kiwanis Board of Directors met Tuesday evening in a planning session for their annual Pancake Supper.

The fund-raising supper will be held in the cafeteria of the Pembroke Elementary School from 5 p.m. until 9 p.m. on Friday, December 9, and on Saturday morning, December 10 from 6:30 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. Tickets may be purchased from Club members at the door. The cost is \$2.00 for all you can eat.

Committees for the supper include TICKET COMMITTEE: James A. Sampson, chairman; Albert Hunt; Theodore Maynor and Jerry Jurek; PANCAKE COOKS: Charlie Walters and Purnell Sweet; SAUSAGE COOKS: Jim Paul and Ed Crain; DINING ROOM: Eddie Mac Locklear; COFFEE: Ed Livingston; MILK: Ed Teets; SOFT DRINKS: Bernard Lowry; PUBLICITY: Ken Johnson, William X. Oxendine and Jerry Jurek; CLEAN-UP: Adolph Dial, John L. Carter and Iris Pate Lowry.

The public is urged to support this project through their attendance at the supper. Proceeds will be used to support the various youth programs which the Pembroke Kiwanis Club sponsors during the year.

PEMBROKE JAYCEES "M"

NIGHT PLANNED

Pembroke Jaycees "M" night will be held Wednesday, December 7, at the Jaycee Clubhouse at 7:30 p.m. Any young man between the ages of 21 and 36 is invited to come out and find out about the Jaycee organization and what the Jaycees are doing to help in building young men while at the same time helping to build their community by working on and with the many community projects that Jaycees are involved with.

This is our annual membership night, so come out and see what you can do for the Jaycees and what the Jaycees can do for you.

We are looking forward to seeing every young man who wants to become involved with the Jaycees on Dec. 7th.

GERALD STRICKLAND & WALTER OXENDINE Membership Co-Chairmen

BICYCLE SAFETY CLINIC

A bicycle safety clinic is coming soon. It will take place during the early winter. People of all ages may learn the rules of bicycle safety, have their bicycles recycled and secure a tag. More on this later.

A CALL FOR BROTHERHOOD

Become a member of a planned Indian Community Coalition to access, coordinate, and assist in resolving the imminent social, educational, economic, legal and spiritual needs of Indians throughout the surrounding communities and counties.

Now, recollect: Do you see situations of social services discrimination every where in your area? And no one seems to care? Have you not seen situations of illiteracy and crime day in and day out and no one, again, seems to care or is able to do anything for the situation? Do you not see and hear almost every day about your fellow man legally misrepresented in legal affairs? Have you seen and heard about your fellow man being fired or refused employment for no apparent reason? Furthermore, have you not had many more injustices that tear the spirit from men's souls?

Then listen: Would you like to be a part of doing something about this? Would you like to see the unresolvable resolved? Do we have the leadership for such a noble effort? Can such an organization succeed where others have fallen far short of success? Sure, there are more questions that could be listed, but the answer to all would be simply yes.

Fellow Indians, we must transcend our apparent failures and believe that the times, the suffering, the isolation and the dejection among our fellow Indians ring out for all communities of Indians to be counted, to contribute and to work together to carry out this long past due and needed effort.

All interested replies to this call can be mailed to me: Rev. James D. Dial, Rt. 2 Box 211, Pembroke, NC 28372.

CORRECTION

In the November 17, 1977 edition of The Carolina Indian Voice an article appeared entitled READING ACADEMY. The article was about the Robeson County Church and Community Center sponsoring a reading center in the Pembroke area. The title of that article should not have read "Reading Academy" but should have read "Reading Center." There are Reading Academies in the area, however, they are sponsored by the Lumbee Regional Development Association's Right to Read Project. Our apologies to the Robeson County Church and Community Center and to the Lumbee Regional Development Association.

PSU'S STEVE BURTON WINS HONORABLE MENTION ALL-CC

Steve Burton, PSU's freshman soccer phenom, has added honor to his crown despite playing for a Braves' team which had only a 1-15 record during the past season. A previous choice of honorable mention on the All-NAIA District 26 soccer selection, Burton has now been named honorable mention on the All-Carolina Conference team. A forward from Lynchburg, VA, Burton led the Braves in scoring with seven goals during the past season and was tied for the most assists of four.