



PUBLISHED EACH THURSDAY



THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

Dedicated To The Best In All Of Us



VOLUME 5 NUMBER 52

PEMBROKE, N.C.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1977

15¢ PER COPY

Dr. James B. Chavis THE PEOPLE'S MAN

by Connee Brayboy



Dr. James B. Chavis

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He continued, "The majority of cases I respond to are from people who are just like me—an average person. Therefore, it is relatively easy for me to respond to citizens with honesty and understanding. This job is not much different from my job at Pembroke State University. There I dealt with problems—people problems. The only difference is that now I deal with them on a much larger scale."

"Actually, what I am is a go-between between the Governor and people who are having problems," Chavis concluded.

Dr. James B. Chavis recently stated that his aspiration is to "refute the theory that state government is insensitive to the average person's needs. Chavis, the Governor's Ombudsman, directs the Office of Citizen Help. He has served in that position since June 1, 1977, as a result of Governor James B. Hunt's appointment.

He worked his way through the chain of command at Pembroke State. He began his career there as the director of the Student Store. He then served for one year as financial aid officer; four years as administrative assistant to the President (Chancellor English E. Jones) one year as director of admissions and registration. And then he became Dean of Student Affairs.

A Lumbee Indian, Chavis is the first Indian to ever serve in the Governor's Office, to our knowledge. He attended elementary school at Deep Branch Elementary School in Robeson County and is a graduate of Hargrave Military Academy, Chatham, Virginia. After graduation, he worked for a short period in the accounting division of Bethlehem Steel in Maryland prior to his return to Pembroke. He earned his B.S. Degree from Pembroke State University in 1963. He taught math at Pembroke High School for one year under the principalship of Mr. Elmer Lowry prior to accepting the position as director of the Student Stores at Pembroke State University.

He earned his Master's Degree from East Carolina University and his Doctorate from Duke University while serving at PSU.

And what does Chavis feel about his new position? "It has been a learning experience for me. I have been able to learn first hand about state government and that is something I have always wanted to do. I am learning state government from the inside out—and I'm still learning. My experiences in this office will be something I can use the rest of my life, no matter what I do in the future."

The Ombudsman's Office is part of the Office of Citizen Affairs which was established during Governor Hunt's administration. The Office of Citizen Affairs includes: Volunteer Programs; developing a Resource Library; and the Office of Citizen Help (Ombudsman). The Office of the Ombudsman was established under the Holshouser administration. Chavis stated that calling his office the Office of Citizen Help was his idea. "Because," he said, "we are the citizen's advocate. We handle people problems. That is, any kind of problem as it relates to state government through North Carolina. I am dedicated to helping citizens in any way that I can. I intend to see that the citizens get a fair shake. After all, that is what state government is all about, serving the people."

It is evident that Dr. Chavis enjoys his work. He is amiable, handsome, humorous, concerned and interesting.

If you have a grievance with state government, don't hesitate to call 1-800-662-7952; write Dr. James B. Chavis, Governor's Ombudsman, Administration Building, 116 West Jones Street, Raleigh, NC 27611; or just walk

into his office. If Dr. Chavis or his staff cannot resolve your problem, they will definitely explain why in a cordial response. And if they can help, they'll do so smilingly and unhesitatingly.

For those of you who do not know Dr. James B. Chavis, you are in for a congenial acquaintance with a man who is definitely a "people's man." And for you who already know him, you'll find the same man in the governor's office that you knew at home.

A reminder of how it used to be for all of us when we were young and

A Holiday Visit with Mr. & Mrs. Murphy Locklear & Family

by Bruce Barton

Some people say things are not like they used to be. In the old days back in the 20s and 30s and 40s and 50s, families seemed somehow to be closer, to care more about one another. Fathers and mothers devoted life times to raising children. Now a days families congregate around the television set as soon as the sun sets and seldom talk to one another. Dupe is the catharsizer of the young. Joy is strained, frustrated, muted. Things just don't seem to be the same, like in the good old days.

A reminder of how it used to be for all of us when we were young and

television was still a figment of the inventor's imagination was nostalgically brought home to me when I recently visited Mr. and Mrs. Murphy Locklear, stalwart and long-time members of the Mt. Airy community.

I was invited by one of their daughters, Mrs. Galloway Hunt. I remember picking cotton on Mr. and Mrs. Hunt's farm, \$3.00 a hundred, if I remember correctly. But somehow those seem, in my memory anyway, to be pleasant days, working days, joy days. One worked hard all day in the fields and slept peacefully afterwards.

Mrs. Hunt said that the great grandchildren had prepared a special Christmas Tree for their grand parents, Mr. and Mrs. Murphy Locklear. And she thought it might make a good little news item. And I went and took the picture. And it was a novel way to decorate a Christmas Tree. The tree, as shown with this story, was interlaced with ornaments containing pictures of the great-grandchildren and graced with a picture of Mr. and Mrs. Locklear on top.

But the joy for me was talking to Mr. Locklear. Although infirm and unable to get up out of bed, he was in a talking mood. All his children had been home with him and his wife for Christmas. And his foster grandson, Johnson Lowery, who he raised "just like one of my own."

And his children are his joy. They are Mrs. Addell Locklear, Lee Alford Locklear, Mrs. Ronie Lee Hunt, Mrs. Zelma Mae Lowery, Murphy Locklear, Jr., Mrs. Fairella Locklear, Miss Lizzie Belle Locklear and her twin sister, Mrs. Lizzie Jane Locklear, and Mrs. Ludalia Cummings.

The children have blessed Mr. and Mrs. Locklear with 46 grandchildren. There are 72 great-grandchildren in the family, too. Lizzie Belle and Murphy, Jr. have never married and remain on the home place with their parents. Miss Lizzie Belle calls herself "the nurse" and the rest "are my aides." The children, all now grown and raising families of their own, take turns staying with their parents at night, tending them with care. As do one of the sisters-in-law. And the grandchildren and the great-grandchildren and just about all of the Mt. Airy Community where the Locklears have lived since they were born.

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Mr. and Mrs. Murphy Locklear grace the top of the Christmas Tree. The ornaments below are their great grandchildren. The Christmas Tree was especially decorated in their honor. [Bruce Barton Photo]

Presbyterians Announce Receipt of Youth Grant at Lumbee Bank



The Rev. J. Harris Stephens, Executive Secretary of the Fayetteville Presbytery, presented a \$30,000 check to Charles Graham, Chairperson of the Lumbee Youth Center Committee today at the Lumbee Bank in Pembroke. The money is a grant from the Presbyterian Church, U.S. to be used in starting a two year pilot program for youth in the Pembroke area.

The program will be housed in the former Presbyterian Church, which is now used for community functions. The program of the center will focus on

assisting youth with educational problems, providing employment counseling, and recreation. The committee is presently taking applications for Program Director of the center, and activities at the center will start shortly after the new director is chosen.

The members of the Youth Center Committee are Charles Graham, Chairperson; Betty Roberts, Vice-Chairperson; William Locklear, Treasurer; Dorothy Chavis; Linda Diskins; Wade Hunt; Betty Jo Jacobs; Donald Locklear; Evelyn Lowry; Annie Ruth Maynor

and Tommy D. Swett.

The money for the grant came from the special Bicentennial offering received across the Presbyterian Church, U.S. in 1976 for witness, mission and ministry among American Indians.

people and places and things

OPEN HEART SURGERY REQUIRED HELP NEEDED

Mary Jane Oxendine, 4-year-old daughter of Mary (Judy) C. Oxendine, will require open heart surgery at Duke University Hospital on January 9, 1978. Because of the nature of the illness, a long stay is anticipated. This will require the parent to either stay at a nearby motel or travel back and forth daily. Either way will require a great amount of money. Your help, the friendly readers of The Carolina Indian Voice, is solicited for financial assistance. Any donations may be mailed to Mary C. Oxendine, in care of The Carolina Indian Voice, P.O. Box 1075, Pembroke, NC 28372. Thank you.

Submitted by friends of the family

PUBLIC HEARING SLATED FOR MAXTON INDIAN EDUCATION PROGRAM

The R.B. Dean School Cafeteria in Maxton will be the location of a Public Hearing to be held Tuesday, January 3, 1978 at 7:00 p.m. The hearing will be for the purpose of discussing plans for the use of Indian Education Act monies to be received by the Maxton City Schools for the school year 1978-79. Everyone is welcome.

SECURITY DEPOSITS TO BE REQUIRED BY LREMC

Lumbee River Electric Membership Corp. announced today that due to an increasing number of members moving away from the cooperative's service area without paying the final bill, security deposits will be required upon application for service as of Jan. 1, 1978.

According to the new policy, adopted by the cooperative's board of directors, applicants for electrical service who can furnish a letter of credit from another electric utility for 12 consecutive months of timely payments to that utility will be required to pay a \$10 membership fee and a \$30 security deposit. Applicants without good credit ratings will have to pay a \$50 security deposit in addition to the \$10 membership fee.

The security deposits will be refunded in full to members-consumers of the cooperative after 36 consecutive months of payment for electrical service to the cooperative or will be credited to the final bill.

CONGRESSMAN ROSE'S MOBILE OFFICE SCHEDULE

WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Charlie Rose, D-NC, announced the 7th Congressional District Mobile Office schedule for January, 1978. Rip Collins, Congressman Rose's representative in the District announced the Mobile Office would be parked as close to the Post Office as possible.

Columbus County

January 4--Wednesday-Hallsboro Post Office, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
 January 10--Tuesday-Chadbourn Post Office, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
 January 20--Friday-Riegelwood Shopping Center, 10:00-3:00
 January 27--Friday-Delco Post Office, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
 January 31--Tuesday-Lake Waccamaw Post Office, 10:00-3:00

Robeson County

January 5--Tuesday-Red Springs Post Office, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
 January 7--Saturday-Lumberton/Biggs Park Shopping Center, 10 a.m.-3 p.m.
 January 12--Thursday-Pembroke Post Office, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
 January 13--Friday-St. Pauls Post Office, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Hoke County

January 6--Friday-Raeford Post Office, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Cumberland County

January 11--Wednesday-Hope Mills Post Office, 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

TICKETS FOR MOTHERS FINEST CONCERT NOW ON SALE AT PSU

Tickets are now on sale at three area locations for the "Mother's Finest" concert Thursday, January 26 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$4 limited advance sale and \$5 the day of the show and are available at Eutaw Records in Fayetteville, Merrimac Music in Lumberton and the Alumni Affairs office in Sampson Hall on the PSU campus.

"Mother's Finest" is appearing with special guests "High and Mighty" in the largest group attraction ever seen at Pembroke State University, according to Student Government President David McDuffie. McDuffie has booked all pop artists at PSU for two years as Entertainment Committee chairman and now serves as head of the first concert committee at PSU.

Because of the size of the two acts, the concert will be presented in the 4,000 seat Jones Health and Physical Education building rather than in the 1,700 seat Performing Arts Center on the campus. McDuffie emphasized the concert will be festival seating, that is no reserved seating—all first come, first served. He added plenty of parking is available near the building.

The concert at Pembroke State is part of the 1978 Homecoming Week for the record number of students attending this year. "It is open to the public, however," stated McDuffie.

"Mother's Finest" has a major recording contract with Epic Records and has released two albums, "Mother's Finest" and "Another Mother Further." From the latter came their regional hit of a few weeks back, "Baby Love."

Members of the group describe their music as the best parts of rock and roll, disco and rhythm and blues, according to McDuffie. "And lead singer Joyce Kennedy can belt out a song with the best of today's rock and rollers."

"We're looking forward to a superb night of entertainment at PSU," said McDuffie. "I hope that many of the area residents will join us for this, the first of many big name bands in our area."

IN THE ARMED FORCES

Scott E. Blanks

Hampton, Va.--Scott E. Blanks, son of Mr. and Mrs. Barrington Blanks of Route 1, Pembroke, NC, has received his first promotion in the U.S. Air Force.

Blanks, promoted to airman, recently completed technical training at Sheppard AFB, Texas, and is now assigned at Langley AFB, Va. He serves as a medical administrative specialist with a unit of the Tactical Air Command.

Airman Blanks is a 1977 graduate of Pembroke Senior High School.

FIFTIETH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION OF MR. AND MRS. LONNIE REVELS

The children of Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie Revels request the honor of your presence at the Fiftieth Wedding Anniversary of their parents Saturday, the 31st of December, 1977 at 3:00 p.m. at the Pembroke Senior High School Cafeteria, Pembroke, NC.

PEMBROKE JAYCEES' ANNUAL NEW YEAR'S DANCE SAT. NIGHT

The Pembroke Jaycees' annual New Year's Dinner and Dance is scheduled for Saturday night. A few reservations are still available. Reservations can be obtained from Oceanus Lowry at 521-9317 or Henry W. Oxendine at 521-9907. No admission without prior reservations.

WATCH NIGHT SERVICE DEC. 31

Watch Night Service will be held Saturday, December 31, 8-12 p.m., at Preston Gospel Chapel. Supper will be served at 10:00 p.m. in the church.