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"Building Communicative Bridges In A Tri-racial Setting."

ROBESON COUNTY

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'STRIKE AT THE WIND!' SUCCESSFUL FUNDRAISING A WELCOME RESPITE AFTER REBUFF BY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS Harvey Godwin, Jr. Credited For Successful Fund Raising Effort

BY BRUCE BARTON

Lumberton-August 5 was a special moment for 'Strike at the Wind', a day after the county commissioners rebuffed an appeal for help from

the financially-troubled outdoor drama that showcases the exploits of Henry Berry Lowrie, and his Civil War era cohorts.

The setting was the Ramada Inn, and the turn out

was a special tribute to those who care about the outdoor drama. The tri-racial assemblage that overflowed the banquet room of the Lumberton motel heard remarks from Hector McLean, an

ardent supporter of 'Strike at the Wind!'. The master of ceremonies was Adolph Dial, the chairman of Robeson Historical Drama, Inc., the sponsoring agency of the spectacular drama, now in its eleventh season.

The catalyst for the occasion, however, was Harvey Godwin, Jr., the local manager of Pembroke's Hill's Store...and in his third season portraying Henry Berry Lowrie. Godwin said, "This is my special tribute to 'Strike at the Wind!', the drama has done a lot for me...and this is something I wanted to do."

What Godwin did was commission a painting by Gene Locklear, a local Native now living in San Diego, California. Locklear, a former major league baseball player with the Cincinnati Reds, San Diego Padres, and New York Yankees, painted an arresting interpretation of the Lumber River, and Henry Berry Lowrie, 100 limited editions were printed, and a dinner and banquet was planned to unveil the painting, and auction off the first limited edition print. It was the trappings for a very successful evening.

Gene Eugene Locklear, a local entrepreneur, bought the original painting, and the first limited edition print was bought by Red Springs medical doctors, Dr. Kenneth Locklear and Dr. Herman Chavis. After a spirited bidding (auctioneer was N.C. House of Representatives member Danny DeVane) the first print sold for \$2300. Dr. Chavis said in a later interview, that "this is something we wanted to do, not only to show our support for 'Strike at the Wind!', but to put something back into the community." Dr. Locklear said, "We have been well received by the people of Robeson County, and I am glad we were able to contribute to the success of the evening."

McLean drew the largest hand of the evening when he said emphatically: "Strike at the Wind! will not fail...we can not afford for it to do so..."

Godwin gave special thanks to Gene Eugene Locklear, who underwrote the project, and Gene Locklear, who presented a wonderful painting. Locklear also had a number of his recent paintings on exhibit. Locklear's painting is entitled "Henry Berry Lowrie on the Lumber River."

Providing special entertainment was Miss Lumbee, Miss Leshia Gail Rogers.

'Strike at the Wind!' is being performed each Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights through September 6. The moving outdoor drama begins nightly at 8:30 p.m. at the Lakeside Amphitheatre on the grounds of the N.C. Indian Cultural Center (formerly Riverside Country Club) in the Red Banks community, approximately 3 miles west of Pembroke. For ticket information, call 521-3112 or 521-2480.

Godwin, still tying up after the special event, estimates that 'Strike at the Wind!' will receive "in excess of \$4000" after expenses.



Gene Eugene Locklear, who underwrote the project, is shown (standing). To his immediate right is Gene Locklear, the gifted Lumbee Indian artist who presented

the well-received painting "Henry Berry Lowrie and the Lumbee River." Others at the table besides Dial and McLean were the wives of Harvey Godwin, Jr. and

Gene Eugene Locklear (Shelia Godwin and Dorothy Locklear).

(Photo by Bruce Barton)



Shown with the first limited edition print [of 100] are (left to right): Harvey Godwin, Jr.; Mrs. Kenneth [Phyllis] Locklear; Dr. Kenneth Locklear; Dr. Herman

Chavis; and Mrs. Herman [Connie] Chavis.

ted permanently in their new medical facilities in Red Springs, when the medical complex is completed.

(Photo by Bruce Barton)



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Gene Locklear, whose ten years as a professional baseball player brought him to the attention of millions of American sportsfans is now achieving recognition in his new career as an artist and interpreter of the American scene, and Sports World.

Locklear decided at a young age he wanted to become a professional baseball player and professional artist. He began painting and playing baseball as a child in Pembroke, North Carolina.

He continued studying and perfecting his skills as an artist during his baseball career. His ten year career started out with the Cincinnati Reds in 1969. Four years in the Reds farm system, he was a two-time minor league batting champion, and MVP twice.

His first year in the majors was 1973. He signed with the Cincinnati Reds, then was traded to the San Diego Padres. He led the San Diego Padres with a .323 batting average. In 1976, he was traded to the New York Yankees. In 1977 while playing for the Yankee farm team the Syracuse Chiefs, Gene hit four homers in one game, he still holds that record.

The last year he played was in Japan, with the Nippon Fighters. Gene retired from baseball in 1979.

His painting of Carolina farm life, sports and Indian lore have achieved national acclaim. "The Tobacco Farm," a painting depicting life in his native home of North Carolina was chosen to be hung in the White House in Washington, D.C.

His life and works of art was the subject of the nationally televised ABC Wide World of Sports program hosted by Joe Garagiola prior to the World Series. A collection of 24 paintings by Gene Locklear have been purchased by Pete Rose and now hang as a permanent collection in Cincinnati, Ohio.

On January 31, 1976, Governor Holshouser and the citizens of North Carolina declared Gene Locklear Day to honor his dual achievements in sports and arts.

Gene Locklear brings to the canvas his own instinctive sensitivity inspired by his American Indian heritage as well as his experience as a renowned sports figure. He sums up his future in art with this statement: "It is my goal to become the artist that one day can be admired, appreciated, and enjoyed with pleasure."

Adolph Dial's New Shopping Center Now Underway Colony Plaza to House Hills, Rite Aide, Family Dollar, etc.

by Bruce Barton

Pembroke-Entrepreneur, and Lumbee notable, Adolph Dial, recently held ground breaking activities for his new shopping center now under construction on Highway 711 in Pembroke. The centerpiece of the shopping center will be Hill's Food Store, to be housed in a modern and spacious 22,000 square foot facility in the middle of Colony Plaza, the name for the shopping center.

Also announced as future tenants are Rite Aide Drug Store (to occupy 6,400 square feet), Family Dollar Store, and other possibilities being considered. The post office is in the process of looking at possible sites, and the new shopping center is one of those sites under consideration.

Dial hopes* to be in the shopping center by Thanksgiving. The shopping center is being built by Cape Fear Construction Company and David Locklear, a local Lumbee Indian, is the on site building superintendent.

Mayor Milton Hunt termed the occasion, "a great day for Pembroke" as he,

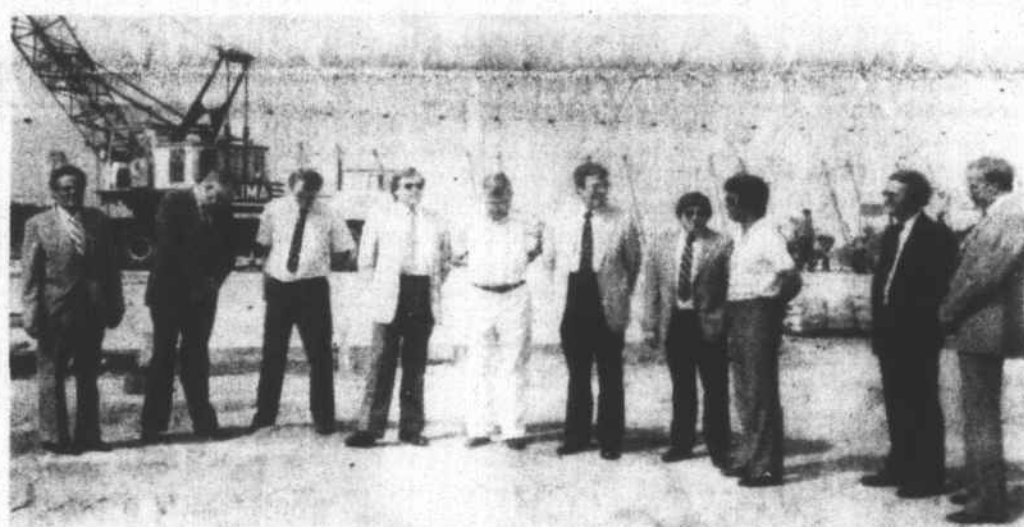
and a number of local notables, joined Dial for the ground breaking activities.



Dewey Hill, owner and chief executive officer of Hillco (the parent company for Hill's Food Stores); David Locklear, the on site building superintendent for the project; and Harvey Godwin, Jr., manager of the

Pembroke-based Hill's Food Store compare notes. An interesting aside is the fact that Locklear and Godwin were high school mates at Pembroke High School.

(Photo by Bruce Barton)



Some of the notables sharing the spotlight for the ground breaking of Colony Plaza in Pembroke were: Adolph Dial, developer; John Grantham, representing Home Federal Savings and Loan [one of the guarantors for the building loan]; a representative from Cape Fear Construction Company;

McDuffie Cummings, town manager for Pembroke; Horace Barnes, a local realtor assisting Dial in developing the shopping center; Rev. Bob Mangum, pastor of Prospect United Methodist Church [Dial's pastor], who gave the prayer of thanksgiving for the project; Mayor

Milton Hunt, town of Pembroke; Greg Cummings, president of the Pembroke Chamber of Commerce; Dewey Hill, chairman of Hillco [parent company of Hill's Food Stores]; and Curtis Pierce, president of Lumbee Bank in Pembroke.

(Photo by Bruce Barton)

Will Five Go Into One? Merger Possibilities In Robeson County

EDITOR'S NOTE

This is the conclusion of a series of articles about school merger possibilities in Robeson County. Will five go into one? History shouts "No!" We hope history will be proven wrong. The series of articles was written by Bruce Barton, editor of this newspaper.

Will five go into one! According to the racial and political realities of the situation in Robeson County, complete merger will result only if mandated by the state Department of Instruction, the civil rights arm of the Federal Government, or an economic crunch that makes city school units inoperable. None of these options seem likely in the near future, but reality will call Robesonians all out in the end. Economic realities will eventually force complete merger, but it is going to be a painful process.

A merger referendum was held in 1972 and 12,878 voted against merger and 5,668 for. Political considerations, and racial attitudes, have not changed considerably since that vote was taken. (*Official Precinct returns in the November 7 General Election, *The Robesonian*, November 12, 1972, p. 4-B.)

Should total merger occur? The evidence seems conclusive that merger is the only fair and equitable solution for the children-red, white and black of Robeson County. Hodge podge attempts at desegregation and merged effort, most notably West Robeson Senior High (a merging of Pembroke, Prospect and Maxton High Schools) have shown that merger can work.

Will merger occur? It might be that the timing is not right for merger. Attitudes determine actions, and the Indian, Black and White citizens of Robeson County seem to be reluctant to merge their efforts at providing education. According to the evidence, merger is not wanted by the adults and politicians, although it is in the best interest of the children and their educational needs. As always, bias, not reason, still reigns supreme in Robeson County. Until bias and reason merge, the school systems will have to wait another season...unless the recent court suit now meandering through the court system takes the decision making out of the hands of our local politicians who have traditionally refused to make hard decisions.

Official Closing Date of the Lumbee Tribal Roll

Those persons desiring tribal enrollment with the Lumbee must submit a completed application to LRDA for tribal membership no later than 5:00 p.m. on

January 31, 1987. This is the final date for enrollment. For further information call: Lumbee Tribal Enrollment Office, 919-521-5602 or write P.O. Box 68, NC 28372.



WHAT'S HAPPENING

REGISTRATION AT MAGNOLIA SCHOOL

All new students and current students not pre-registered for 1986-87 should come to Magnolia School between the hours of 8 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. before August 29, 1986 to register for the new year. Kindergarten students should have shot record and birth certificate. Transfer students should have a copy of their shot record. If you have any questions, please call 739-7897 and ask for Mrs. Jo Ann Lowery, Counselor, or Mr. Noah Woods, Principal.

ATTENTION PARENTS

If you received a brochure about the West Robeson High School Health Clinic, please complete the parental consent form and return it to the address listed in the brochure. This consent form must be obtained in order for your son(s) or daughter(s) to receive services at the clinic.

PIG PICKIN' PLANNED FOR TOMMY HARRELSON

A pig pickin' for Tommy Harrelson, Candidate for U.S. Congress, is planned for August 16, 1986 from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. The event will be held at Billy Ray Bullard's Farm which is located behind Family Medicine Clinic on the Philadelphia Road. Follow the signs. It is free and everyone is welcome.

AGE CHANGE LAW ON THE BOOKS

There's a new law on the books raising the drinking age in North Carolina, announced Agent Herbert Battle, with the North Carolina Alcohol Law Enforcement Division.

As of September 1st, it's against the law to buy, attempt to buy or possess any alcoholic beverages, unless you are 21-years old.

Underage drinkers may be fined and persons selling or serving drinks to anyone under the age of 21 could be put in jail.

Don't get the book thrown at you. Be safe. Be smart. Be 21.

NEW RESIDENT ASSISTANT AT WCU

Cullouhee- Kathleen Brewington of St. Pauls has been selected as a resident assistant in one of Western Carolina University's residence halls for the 1986-87 academic year.

A resident assistant, a student member of the WCU Housing Office, serves about 40 students living in a residence hall. The resident assistants plan hall activities, respond to emergencies, make themselves available to discuss students' problems, and ensure that university policies are carried out. To qualify for these positions, students must be sophomores and have proven academic success.

Brewington, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Sherman Brewington of Route 1, St. Pauls, is a graduate of Magnolia High School and Robeson Technical College. She worked as a licensed practical nurse at Southeastern General Hospital from 1977 until 1985. She is in WCU's bachelor of science in nursing degree program and will be a resident assistant in Scott residence hall.