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

ROBESON COUNTY

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## Former President Of Bacone College Dr. Dean Chavers: His Life Has Changed From Laboring Behind A Plow To Being Top Indian Advocate



Dr. DEAN CHAVERS, a native of Pembroke, with his mother, Mrs. DOROTHY BYRD, who is a graduate of PSU. Chavers, former

president of Bacone College in Muskogee, Okla., spoke recently at PSU.

BY GENE WARREN

"I didn't want to stay behind a plow all my life—and I never was much good at picking cotton."

So at age 16, Dean Chavers, a Lumbee Indian, left Pembroke to live with his grandparents in Dinwiddie, Va., graduated from high school there and became the spelling champion of Virginia.

He worked for a year in a munitions plant in Hopewell, Va., attended the University of Richmond for a couple of years, then went into the Air Force where he became a navigator during the Vietnam War, rising to the rank of captain.

His success story was just beginning. Because after his discharge, he would earn a B.A. at the University of California at Berkeley and two Master's degrees and a Ph.D. at Stanford University, then become president of Bacone College in Muskogee, Okla., from 1978-81.

Today the 45-year-old Dr. Chavers, handsome and articulate, lives in Albuquerque, N.M., with his family, which includes three daughters, and is president of MANAGE, Inc., a fund-raising, training and financial management firm which works on a national scale with Indian organizations in helping Indian funding. He is an advocate for American Indians and knows Indian leaders all over the United States.

Chavers—accompanied by his proud mother, Mrs. Dorothy Godwin Chavers Byrd of Pembroke—spoke last week at Pembroke State University from which his mother graduated. His father is deceased.

Few American Indians are better qualified to tell Indian students "they can make it" than Dr. Dean Chavers. He is walking, talking evidence.

He spoke at PSU about negativeness of many American Indians and how they can do something about it.

"Did you know only 20 percent of Indian people are registered to vote? If you are not registered, you can't vote. If you don't attend school, you can't be educated. We don't have the power because we don't exercise it. Not being involved is one of our real Indian problems. A lot of Indian people don't see the value of voting," he pointed out.

Chavers spoke of the conditions on Indian reservations. "Fifty percent of the people are unemployed in Indian country.

On the Pine Ridge Reservation in Nebraska, the unemployment is 85 percent. In places like that, it is like walking through a war zone. The people look shell shocked, like war victims. What this does is devastate the young people."

In Indian country, Chavers said, "If you are over 40, you're working. If you're under 40, you are unemployed." He added with emphasis, "Out there, if you can live until you are 40, you'll have a job."

Chavers said one problem of Indians is they are oriented toward each other, but not to the outside. "In fact, we have worked at cross purposes against one another," Chavers said.

Chavers wants more visibility for the Indians in Congress. "I believe we ought to be organizing and getting to the point that we can have more advocates there. We have six out of 535 in Congress fighting for us—and we need at least 10 times that many. We need to influence the political process."

But Chavers pointed out that American Indians should exercise tact in dealing with politicians. "When you are dealing in politics, you are dealing in power. You don't go around and insult those people," he cautioned.

However, Chavers has little sympathy for some dealings of the Bureau of Indian Affairs. "You know what puppets are? The Bureau of Indian Affairs can throw out an election. The people elected are by and large their puppets. The Indians' attorneys have to be approved by the BIA. The tribal governments are there only as long as they cooperate and go along."

Chavers added that American Indians need more visibility in the mass media. "Indians receive very little visibility—and what they do get is generally negative. Things like alcohol, arrests, drugs, etc. It is very heartening for me to see the positive events going on at Pembroke (like the recent Festival of Native American Arts and Culture and the future Indian Educational Policy Symposium). It's great to have that. People do not understand many things about Indians."

But with energetic, verbal people like Chavers as the catalyst, times appear to be changing fast. He has come a long way from being behind the plow in striving for new horizons for his fellow American Indians.

## Concerned Citizens Gather After Shooting Death of Jimmy Earl Cummings

One hundred and fifty-six concerned citizens gathered at Pembroke Junior High School on Thursday night, November 13, to discuss the recent death of Jimmy Earl Cummings. Mr. Cummings was shot by Kevin Stone, Narcotics Agent for the Robeson County Sheriff's Department and son of Sheriff Hubert Stone. The meeting was coordinated by John L. Godwin of Pembroke, member of the Robeson County Clergy and Laity Concerned. Chairing the meeting was Rev. Mac Ledgerton, Executive Director of that organization.

Addressing the assemblage was Junior (Skeet) Cum-

mings, brother of the deceased. Mr. Cummings informed the group that a Coroner's Inquest into the death of his brother had been held that afternoon at five p.m. He stated that the family was not notified until 1:30 p.m. Mr. Cummings felt that a grave injustice had been done in that the family was not given sufficient time to obtain legal counsel for the inquest.

Many questions were raised and many suggestions were made. Petitions were circulated which called for a thorough investigation of the incident and the dismissal of Kevin Stone.

It was learned at the

meeting that the Sheriff of Robeson County may practice nepotism with the consent of the county commissioners. At the meeting it was not known which of the commissioners approved the hiring of Kevin Stone and his brother by their father, Sheriff Hubert Stone.

Other questions raised included the violation, seemingly, of the rights of the family to be represented by an attorney at the coroner's inquest. It was decided that legal counsel would be obtained to represent the family and attempt to right many of the wrongs perpetrated by the sheriff's office, the coroner's office and the district attorney.

## LRDA's Tribal Enrollment Petition To Be Submitted One Of The Goals Reached During Paul Brooks' Tenure

The Lumbee Regional Development Association's (LRDA) Tribal Enrollment Project has been involved in the enrollment of Indian children and parents in the Robeson County Public School System. The staff coordinated efforts with the county and the local school principals.

According to LRDA Board Chairman Paul Brooks, the efforts of tribal enrollment in the schools was successful. Although on the site enrollment ended in the schools on November 14, parents of Indian children are still encouraged to come by the LRDA Tribal Enrollment Office to enroll their children and themselves.

Mr. Brooks stated that January 31, 1987 will be the last day for tribal enrollment. LRDA will then submit a tribal petition to seek federal recognition through the Bureau of Indian Affairs for Lumbee Indians.

For Indian community members who still wish to enroll as a Lumbee Indian, they must provide copies of birth certificate for all family members, sign consent forms and provide a genealogical history of their family tree.

Mr. Brooks said that all inquiries about the tribal enrollment process should be directed to the Lumbee Tribal Enrollment Project or call (519) 521-8602.

The near completion of the enrollment process is one of the many goals that Mr. Brooks expressed when he ran for the LRDA Board of Directors three years ago. He stated that he was extremely proud of the accomplishment thus far with tribal enrollment. On Thursday, December 4, 1986 Mr. Brooks will seek re-election to the LRDA Board of Directors. He represents Pembroke and Union Precincts. Voting will be held from 8 a.m. until 8 p.m. at the Pembroke Elementary School and Union Elementary School. Your vote and support for Mr. Brooks to continue representing your best interests on the LRDA Board of Directors will be appreciated.

## Keeping Families Together is The Goal of Family Life

"Keeping Families together is the goal of Family Life." Hence, Prospect United Methodist Church will hold three days [four services] of Family Life Revival Services November 23, 24 & 25, with Dr. Michael Hale, A United Methodist Minister and Family Life Specialist of the North Carolina

Conference. Dr. Hale develops the theme "Tough Love Commitment" [TLC] to deal with relationships in dating, marriage, children and youth. He will begin his TLC theme with Jesus' Ministry as a basis in the Sunday morning worship at Prospect UMC [Route 3, Maxton, NC-phone 521-2111] at 10:30 a.m. He

will further develop this theme Sunday night at 6:30 p.m. and Monday and Tuesday at 7 p.m.

The public is invited to join the pastor and congregation for these Family Life Revival Services at Prospect UMC on November 23, 24 and 25. The Rev. Robert L. Mangum is pastor.

## Robeson Little Theatre Presents 'The Hollow'

This weekend Robeson Little Theatre will put on its second offering of the season, Agatha Christie's *The Hollow*. The play will run for three days, with performances Friday November 21 and Saturday November 22 at 8:00 p.m. and Sunday November 23 at 2:30 p.m. at the Carolina Civic Center in Lumberton. Tickets are \$4.00 for adults, \$3.00 for Senior Citizens.

and \$2.00 for students. Seating is not reserved. The story, one of Agatha Christie's best, is set at The Hollow, home of Sir Henry Angkatell and his wife Lucy. They have several weekend guests, including several of their cousins and Dr. and Mrs. John Cristow. The action begins to move very quickly when it turns out that John's old flame, movie star Veronica Crave is in the

neighborhood. The plot is filled with triangles of unreturned affection, target shooting and the inevitable murder, but everything comes out alright in the end, and justice is done.

For more information regarding this play, contact Kay B. House at 521-2831 or 738-3935; Jane Martin at 738-4861 or 739-0366; or Lana Dia' at 739-8494.

## REMEMBERING THE VETERANS

On November 11th, Veterans Day, we paid tribute to our veterans throughout America, many of whom did not return from serving their country. They died for freedom that we now enjoy. We shall never forget those brave men and women of our country, the greatest country in the world.

We met Tuesday for the memorial and dedication of the Vietnam Monument located at the St. Pauls Community Building. We are not forgetting the other memorials already placed

there is memory of those who served in previous wars by the American Legion Post No. 5. And we honor this post for their effort and their support. The above Vietnam Monument was sponsored by VFW Post 5006, St. Pauls. Veterans Day is that special day set aside each November 11th to remember Americans who have served their country. Parades were held the country over to pay tribute to the 2.8 million living veterans and the 1.2 million who died fighting for freedom and to establish it. Tribute is also paid to the

nearly 40 million who have worn the American uniform in war time and the millions who served to keep the peace. Many of the living veterans fought in more than one war. For example, the more than 6 million Korean War Veterans include a million or so who served in World War II; comprising 8.3 million Vietnam era veterans are 644,000 Korean War Veterans. And, of course, there are veterans who served in as many as three wars.

Text by  
7501 W.P. Revels

## PEMBROKE MILY DOLLAR TO RELOCATE

Charlotte, NC—Family Dollar, located on Union Chapel Road, is moving to a new location in the new Colony Plaza Shopping Center, 406 East Third Street, with Hill's Food Store.

The new store will open Wednesday November 26th at 9 a.m. and hold a Grand Re-Opening sale.

Local officials and Family Dollar executives will take part in a brief ribbon-cutting ceremony at the main entrance to the store immediately before the opening. The company expects a large crowd to attend the ribbon-cutting and take advantage of special Grand Opening sale prices afterward.

Lou Faraone, Family Dollar's Regional Director for the area said, "Family Dollar sincerely appreciates the loyal patronage we have received from customers in Pembroke

and surrounding area. Our new store will enable us to serve our customers better."

Family Dollar was founded in 1959 with a single store in Charlotte, N.C. and as of November 26th will have 1150 stores in 23 states, and more than 7,277,730 square feet of total sales space.

The company presently operates in the two Carolinas, Georgia, Mississippi, Alabama, Florida, Tennessee, Virginia, West Virginia, Maryland, Arkansas, Louisiana, Kentucky, Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Missouri, Texas, Oklahoma, Illinois, and Michigan. The General Offices and Distribution Center are located in Charlotte, North Carolina.

Family Dollar Stores, Inc., is a publicly held company with common stock traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol "FDQ."

THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE  
P.O. Box 1075 Phone 521-2826  
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ISN'T THIS A  
*Beautiful Day!*



## United Way Moves Closer To 1986 Goal

The United Way of Robeson County, nearing the end of its 1986 campaign, picked up momentum this week with a major gift from industry and moved significantly closer to its campaign goal of \$300,000.

A \$45,000 gift from Kayser Roth Hosiery, Inc. the single largest contribution in the two years of the local chapter, helped the United Way move to 76 percent of its goal and give campaign chairman Steve Harrill hope the campaign will reach its goal by Thanksgiving.

"We've had a lull the past two weeks and it's been somewhat disappointing," Harrill said. "But this week, with leadership from Kayser Roth, and the reports coming in from all over the county, we're confident we'll be able to meet our goal."

United Way has now raised \$229,187.22, an increase of almost \$60,000 since figures were last reported almost two weeks ago. The bulk of that has come from major industry, which has accounted for \$152,091.96, or 80 percent of its goal.

Kayser Roth was also last year's largest contributor. "The biggest selling point was that it was for Robeson County," said Kayser Roth

spokesman Jim Overwyk.

Money raised from United Way helps fund 13 local agencies, including Robeson County Church and Community Center, Lumberton Christian Care, Southeastern Family Violence Center, 4-H, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts.

Major business has raised 72 percent of its goal and is reporting \$37,561.21. Small business is at 78 percent with \$16,699.84.

Other reports included: Professionals, \$4,525; public employees, \$3,124.12; education, \$1,170.63; agriculture, \$1,130 and retired, \$2,368.46.

"I think most people are glad to give, because they know the money is going to stay in Robeson County and be used for the people in Robeson County," Harrill said.

Last year, which was the first year for United Way in Robeson County, the local chapter raised \$264,000, just short of its goal of \$280,000.

"There's only \$71,000 more to raise," Harrill said. "If we give it that final push and everyone pitches in, we can meet our goal."

Anyone interested in giving to The United Way, may call executive director Ann Dunlap at 739-4249.

## Festival Of Trees Set For Hospice Benefit

Christmas dreams come true at Hospice of Robeson's first Festival of Trees scheduled for December 2-4 at Lumberton's Ramada Inn. Festival of Trees features a ballroom filled with uniquely decorated trees, holiday music and more!

Visitors to Festival of Trees will also have an opportunity to help decorate a special 8-foot tree with doves in honor or memory of a loved one. This Tree of Honor is a special project of the volunteers of

both Southeastern General Hospital and Hospice of Robeson. All proceeds from Festival of Trees will go to Hospice of Robeson, a non-profit program of care for terminally-ill persons and their families.

Festival hours are scheduled for 5 p.m.-9 p.m. on December 2; 10 a.m.-9 p.m. on December 3 and 4. Admission tickets available at the door are priced at \$1 for adults and 50 cents for

children. A grand drawing for prizes will be held at 8 p.m. on December 4. Winners need not be present.

Due to the Thanksgiving Holidays, the Carolina Indian Voice will publish on Wednesday, November 26, 1986. News and advertising deadlines for that issue will be Monday, November 24. The staff of the Carolina Indian Voice would appreciate your help in adhering to this deadline.