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Locklear Chair Board of Commissioners



Bobby Dean Locklear was elected Chairman of the Robeson County Board of Commissioners on Monday night. Locklear is the second Native American to hold that position. Locklear, replacing Billie Britt, received six of the seven votes from his fellow Commissioners. Voting for Locklear were: Billie Britt, Sammy Cox, Bill Herndon, Noah Woods, and Johnny Hunt. The only vote against was from Luther Sanderson.

Commissioner Bill Herndon was elected vice chairman.

Honored for volunteer services



Vinita Clark of Pembroke is shown with the WBTW-TV 13's "Time to Care Award." The award was presented to Ms. Clark November 21, 1991 at the Youth Enrichment Services in Lumberton. Ms. Clark is the first Native American and the first North Carolina resident to receive this award. Kelly Shriver of WBTW-13 presented the award.

Ms. Clark was recognized for her volunteer work with children with special needs. She began helping young people in 1975. She has volunteered at the Odom Home in Pembroke and has housed children in her home who were neglected, abused, and runaways. She has earned recognition for her work with the Willie M program in the state.

The award is presented once a month by WBTW-13 in Florence, SC. Pepsi-Cola, Tupperware and Coastal Carolina Hospital. The plaque reads: "For taking the time and compassion to care for others and for giving you best to your fellowman."

Ms. Clark is the daughter of Mr. Chance Maynor of Pembroke. She is the mother of two sons, Bucky and Charlie.

SBA to recognize Native Americans

November was Indian Heritage Month. The Small Business Administration wishes to recognize the contributions of American Indians during this time.

"As original inhabitants of the North American Continent, the spiritual, artistic, and cultural influence of Native American people is very much prevalent in our society," said Gary Keel, SBA District Director. "Native Americans have made significant achievements."

Between 1982 and 1987, the number of American Indian businesses in the U.S. rose from 10,938 to 17,884—an increase of 63.5 percent. This compares to a 38 percent increase in Black owned businesses, 58 percent increase in women owned businesses, 80 percent of hispanic owned businesses and 89.3 percent of Asian owned businesses. The growth of all businesses in this 5 year period was 14 percent. Indian owned businesses account for only 2 percent of all U.S. businesses.

North Carolina has the third largest population of businesses owned by American Indians, or 1,757 in 1987. North Carolina, Alaska and California have 43.7 percent of all U.S. businesses owned by American Indians.

SBA programs are open to all business owners and to all individuals that want to go into business. SBA offers free management counseling, financial assistance, bonding, international trade assistance, federal procurement assistance and much more. please call 704-344-6563 for more information.

Local Indian leaders honored

The North Carolina Federation of American Indians hosted a reception to honor American Indians who currently hold elected, appointed or department manager level positions in state government, who reside in the Raleigh area November 21, at the State Capital in Raleigh.

The following Indian people were honored: Dr. Adolph L. Dial, member of the N.C. House of Representatives, a Lumbee Indian who resides in Raleigh while the Legislature is in session. Dr. Dial maintains his permanent residency in Robeson County. He is the only American Indian elected to the North Carolina Legislature this session.

Judge Dexter Brooks, Superior Court Judge, a Lumbee who works in Raleigh, but maintains his permanent residence in Robeson County. Judge Brooks is the only known American Indian to serve on the bench in Wake County, North Carolina. This is an elected position.

Dr. Nancy Sampson, Chief of the N.C. Child Day Care Program, in Raleigh, a Lumbee Indian who works in Raleigh but maintains her permanent residence in Robeson County. Dr. Sampson was appointed by Governor Jim Martin.

Rose Marie Lowry, President of the North Carolina Association of Educators, a Lumbee Indian who works in Raleigh but maintains her permanent residence in Robeson County. Ms. Lowry is the first American Indian to be elected President of NCAE.

Joseph W. Smith, Member of the North Carolina Utilities Commission, a Lumbee Indian, originally from Robeson County who now resides in Cary. He is the only known American Indian to serve on the Utilities Commission.

David McCoy, Chief Council for the North Carolina Department of Administration, Raleigh. A Chipawa Indian who works in Raleigh but resides in Chapel Hill.

A. Bruce Jones, Executive Director, North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs, a Lumbee Indian from Robeson County who now resides in Raleigh.

The reception was highlighted by an array of American Indian arts, crafts, paintings, etc. and a unique cuisine of traditional American Indian finger foods. Indian citizens from across the state were in attendance.

Christmas party planned

The Very Special People Supporters of Robeson County will have their Christmas Party December 15 at from 3 til 5 p.m. at the Baptist House across from Pembroke State University. Parents are encouraged to attend and bring a covered dish.

Survivor of Pearl Harbor attack vividly remembers December 7, 1941

by Gene Warren
PSU Public Information Director

Pembroke-The 50th anniversary of "a date that will live in infamy," December 7, 1941, when Pearl Harbor was attacked, will be observed this month. Remembering it like yesterday was a man who was there: retired Technical Sergeant William P. Revels of St. Pauls.

Then a member of the U.S. Army's Battery C 16th Coast Artillery in Harbor Defense, Revels was stationed on the island of Oahu. He was 29 years old and preparing to celebrate his 30th birthday on December 15. He told about the attack in a recent WPSU-TV interview.

"Many of my friends told me something would happen before my enlistment was up—and sure enough, it did," said Revels, who will be 80 this December. He told about "I was getting ready to go to church. I always went to church wherever I was stationed. Then it happened! The bugler blew every call in the book."

"The man driving our truck didn't know how to drive, but we managed to get to our battery. We located a two-man Japanese sub off the coast and were loaded and ready to fire. But we were given orders by the high command not to fire because they said the Japanese would find out positions and we'd be bombed. They said they would send in the Air Force to sink the sub. And they did while we looked on."

strong, Japan wouldn't have bombed Pearl Harbor. We were on the weak side then. FDR tried to build up our defenses, but the Congress wouldn't go along with it.

"At Pearl Harbor, the Japanese destroyed our Navy and Air Force, and we had to start from scratch. I remember we were so ill equipped we had to borrow binoculars from the civilians," he claimed.

Revels is a member of Chapter 1 of the Pearl Harbor Survivors Association of North Carolina who will have a reunion December 7 at the Holiday Inn in Greenville, NC. He is also a member of the national Pearl Harbor Survivors organization.

He enlisted initially in the Army in 1933 at the age of 21. After World War II, he re-enlisted in the U.S. Air Force and was trained as a photographer. "I'm a licensed photographer, and for five years I was photography lab chief at Pope Air Force Base," he said. He retired with 22 years of active duty and has eight years in the Air Force Reserves for a total of 30 years. Still active at almost 80 years of age, he operates Revels Photography Studio in St. Pauls. "I've spent 45 years as a photographer," said Revels, who has two sons and two grandchildren.

Revels proudly wears his old Air Force uniform with such decorations as the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal with two battle stars, the World War II Victory Medal, the



Ret. Technical Sergeant William P. Revels

Revels said his first thought about the Japanese were the attack came was: "They're here!" He said his outfit had just returned December 6 to their barracks after training in the field for two weeks with live ammunition. The reason for the return: to have their picture taken. (Revels showed a copy of the photograph.)

"If we had just stayed in the field, we could have shot down half of their airplanes," he claimed. "It was a sneak attack. There were 3,700 of our people killed or wounded in the attack. The battleship Arizona was sunk in less than nine minutes with 1,100 sailors aboard. We were afraid the Japanese were going to take the island, and had they known the damage they had done, they would have sent a task force and taken the island."

Revels recalled what President Franklin D. Roosevelt said at the time. "He said, 'The Japanese don't know the damage they did, and I'm sure not going to tell them.'"

Asked by WPSU-TV host Dr. Oscar Patterson on the TV program "Pembroke Forum" what should America learn from the attack, Revels replied: "We should stay strong. I'm an advocate for a strong America. If we had been

American Defense ribbon, and other ribbons for National Defense, Air Force Longevity, and Good Conduct.

"I always wanted to be a soldier," he said. "And I wanted to be a volunteer. I believe in fighting for our country. I wasn't drafted. I was already there (at Pearl Harbor), serving my country."

Revels said he believes if the atomic bomb had not been used on Japan, the war "would have lasted at least two more years and millions would have been killed on both sides."

He told of returning to the United States after World War II ended. "I was put aboard the U.S.S. President Pope, an Army transport. We had over 4,000 troops aboard—from the Army, Navy, and Marines. It took us 30 days to get from Guam to San Francisco," he said. "When I returned to Robeson County, Lumberton had grown quite a bit. There were one-way streets. I got on one before I realized it."

His final thoughts about Pearl Harbor: "The United States should always be on the alert. That should be our motto. Remember Pearl Harbor!"



Four of the PSU students who recently attended their first National Conference of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISSES) in Albuquerque, NM are shown above. They are, left to right: Kelvin Locklear, Crystal Locklear, Allison Locklear and Chini Lowry. Not shown is another PSU student who made the trip: Christopher Locklear.



They're proud, they're mad, and they're ready to battle. "War Eagle" Chavis, left, and Chief Wahoo McDaniel.

Wrestlequake II is Saturday night

The last thing you want to do if you are a wrestler is make Chief Wahoo McDaniel and "War Eagle" Chavis mad. Over the past several weeks their opponents have found out the truth of this statement first hand, as one by one they fell to defeat. These warriors know what ring combat is all about after stalking dozens of opponents in hundreds of rings throughout the country. Now it's Fairmont's turn to be the stage for Wrestlequake II, a repeat performance which saw "War Eagle" Chris Chavis defeat his opponent, Vince Torelli, in the Middle School Gym last May. This time the site is the brand new gym of the Fairmont High School campus on Saturday, December 7 at 7:30 p.m. Chavis and McDaniel are both ring veterans and will face the "Raging Bull" Manny Fernandez, and Hans the German Storm Trooper. The Chavis-Fernandez match will be a title rematch with the championship belt on the line.

Advance tickets for Wrestlequake II can be purchased from Kimbrells Furniture in Lumberton, Pembroke Drug Center, Discount Video and the high school office in Fairmont. Ringside seats are \$8, general admission seats are \$6, and under 12 children's tickets are \$4. A concession stand will be open with a variety of food and beverages beginning at 6 p.m. throughout the evening. Wrestling shirts, and other equipment will be on sale. Tank Sherman of radio station MIX 98 will serve as ring announcer.