

T : CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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A Front Page Editorial

Mike McIntyre Plays the "Race" Card Against Rose Marie Lowry-Townsend in the Race for Congress

Some Blacks are mad at Rose Marie Lowry Townsend because most Indians voted for Vickie Locklear instead of Tom Jones, Jr. in the Register of Deeds race. Ummm! Some Blacks are now supporting Mike McIntyre because of it. Go figure! ONLY IN ROBESON.

LET'S SEE IF WE CAN MAKE ANY SENSE OF IT! Unbelievably, there are some Blacks in Robeson County supporting Mike McIntyre instead of Rose Marie Lowry-Townsend for Congress. But let us be quick to add here that Blacks, like Indians and Whites, vote for whomever they choose in the sanctity of the voting booth. Evidently though some Blacks are mad and are going to punish the Indians, including Rose Marie Lowry-Townsend, an innocent bystander, and, most of all, themselves. It's sad. And it makes one wonder if we have really made much progress in Robeson County. We're all still driven by race in the end, and that's the way it is shaping up in the June 4 run off. The Blacks' (AT LEAST THE ONES WHO ARE MAD) rationale is that they believe Indians should have, some how, mindlessly and in lockstep fashion, voted for Thomas "Tom" Jones, Jr., the Black candidate, instead of one of the two Indians in the 1994 primary for Register of Deeds; either Janet Wynn or the eventual winner, Vickie Locklear. Supporters of Sheriff Glenn Maynor, at least some of them, according to one political scenario, had promised that they would try to support a Black for register of deeds (Tom Jones, Jr.) in the 1996 primary if the Blacks would support now Sheriff Maynor in the 1994 general election. Did anyone, including the Blacks, keep their promises, and who can guarantee anyone else's vote in the end, except oneself? All this in spite of the fact that hardly any Whites voted for Jones, especially in Mike McIntyre's strongholds of Lumberton Precinct #1 & 8. Jones received 67 votes in Lumberton #1, for instance, to Billie Britt's 628. Count them! Jones received 67 votes out of a total of 1197 votes cast in Lumberton #1. Jones received 40 votes in Lumberton #8. Billie Britt, the White candidate, in contrast, received a whopping 462. It was unrealistic for Black politicians to believe that Indian politicians could tell Indian voters who to vote for. The Indian electorate is especially independent-minded these days. Times have changed considerably from the fifties and sixties when a handful of Black, White and Indian politicians could get together in a back room and decide the fate of a possible election. Not anymore. Voters are too sophisticated for that, including Whites, Blacks and Indians. People tend now to think for themselves and, more often than not, vote for one of their own if one of like color is on the ballot. Mostly, whites vote for white candidates; Blacks vote for Black candidates; Indians, we hope, are going to vote for the Indian candidate in the 7th Congressional Democratic run off-Rose Marie Lowry-Townsend. The only ones who ever stray in any considerable numbers are the Indians; that concerns us in this election. Believe it or not, there are Indians, too, who swear they are going to vote for Mike McIntyre, the white, conservative candidate. Go figure! Only in Robeson.

MIKE MCINTYRE AND HIS PEOPLE MEET WITH A NUMBER OF BLACKS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY; TELLS THEM "INDIANS ARE TAKING OVER!"

UMMMM! Mike McIntyre and his supporters, including, according to our sources, his campaign manager, David Branch, Eddie Musslewhite, and others, have met with a number of prominent Blacks throughout the county. One of McIntyre's themes to the Blacks is the BIG LIE that

"Indians are taking over the county, and leaving the Blacks out." McIntyre and his people refuse to talk on the record and have covered themselves by issuing "no comment" to questions about the meetings. We understand that not all Blacks have received McIntyre's message well. Word has it that a Black candidate, and winner, on the school board excused himself from the meeting. Tom Jones, Jr. should have, if he didn't, remind McIntyre that he did not receive any votes from the predominately White precincts like Lumberton #1. McIntyre's own precinct. And also that it has not been too long ago that whites controlled every political office in the county. They seem to think that when the whites had total control that it was alright. But now that Indians are getting their rightful share of the political pie, McIntyre and company find something wrong with that. It is amazing that they assume that Indians and Blacks have such short memories. So, McIntyre is telling Jones, and other Black leaders, that he will somehow help them if they will help him in the June 4 runoff. As has been proven in the past, McIntyre's form of help will not manifest itself in votes for a Black candidate. Whites cannot point to any election in the past where they supported a Black candidate IN ANY SIGNIFICANT WAY. Indians, on the other hand, can point to Rev. Joy Johnson's historic election to the house and, later, the elections of Blacks Bob Davis, Rev. Sidney Locks and Frances Cummings to the same post after Dr. Johnson. Another rumor floating around the McIntyre camp is the one that McIntyre might put Alex Killens, or another Black, on his staff if he wins. We don't know if this rumor is true or not. Both McIntyre and Branch simply retreat behind a "no comment" when questioned about these matters. We ask, "At what price?" Killens is Rev. Joy Johnson's son-in-law, and was recently ousted from his position as director of the Department of Motor Vehicles in Raleigh. Killens essentially resigned in disgrace because of a bad audit from the state auditor's office. Is Killens now supporting McIntyre?

MORE ON DR. JOY JOHNSON, BROKEN PROMISES ETC. Some Blacks, with the most prominent one being former state legislator Joy Johnson, believe that there are political leaders in the Indian community who can force Indians to vote for someone other than one of their own. Still, the truth of the matter is, Jones received some votes in predominately Indian precincts, one example being Back Swamp where he polled 197 votes to Locklear's 158. Jones even received a handful of votes from Pembroke North and South Precincts, as well as Prospect and other predominately Indian precincts. For him, or Dr. Johnson, to expect more is to be unrealistic and naive to say the least. Other Black candidates, including incumbent school board member and May 7 winner, Rev. John Campbell, received strong Indian support. If the truth be known, the Indians kept their promise to the Black electorate, and Tom Jones, Jr. specifically as well as they could under the circumstances. Vickie Locklear and Janet Wynn did not check in with any powers that be; they ran for the office of register of deeds because they wanted to, and because the constitution said they could. After becoming a candidate anyway, it was not unreasonable to expect Indians to vote, in large numbers, for them. Is this not what happened when Black Trooper Emmitt Brown ran for sheriff in the 1994 primary? Most Blacks voted for him in the primary. As we recall, Blacks made certain promises in the sheriff's race that they could not, in the end, keep because of Brown's entry into the sheriff's

race. Dr. Joy Johnson was one of those who had to, as he saw it at the time, renege on a promise he had made to the Sheriff Maynor campaign. That is not unreasonable, and no one has the right to be mad because Blacks voted for one of their own. Really, they (the Indian electorate) ought to be commended in many ways, not condemned as some are doing presently. It's just not fair! We should add here, again, that Rev. Joy Johnson, a long time hero of ours, was elected in the 1970s to the house of representatives to the North Carolina General Assembly with the help of Indians. It was one of the first times that a candidate put together a truly, ecumenical campaign in Robeson County. We hope Dr. Johnson has not forgotten that wonderful and historic event of yester year. We haven't!

Blacks in the recent election, like the Indians and Whites, mostly voted for their own, including District Court Judge Candidate, Judith Milsap Daniels, who lost a close election to Jeff Moore, the Indian candidate and eventual winner. We can't imagine an Indian anywhere in Robeson County being disappointed that Blacks, in overwhelling numbers, voted for Daniels. And we certainly have not heard of any Indians suggesting that Blacks should necessarily have voted for Moore rather than Daniels. If candidates are of like ability, and similar in political philosophy, Robeson's electorate, more often than not, will vote for their own. This fact doesn't mean anyone is evil; it's just telling it the way it really is in Ol' Robeson. The only irony of the most recent campaign is the fact that Lumberton native and Black candidate for Congress in the primary, Marcus Williams, received hardly any votes from the Black community. Maybe they didn't know he was Black. The fact that Williams didn't receive any votes from the Black community is almost as interesting as the fact that some Blacks expected Indians to turn from Indian candidates and vote for Thomas "Tom" Jones, Jr., the Black candidate for register of deeds. It's just not a reasonable assumption to make. Indians, in the register of deeds, mostly split their votes between Janet Wynn and Vickie Locklear, the eventual winner. Does that surprise anyone? It certainly doesn't surprise us, or offend us. It's just the way of the human heart here in Robeson County and elsewhere in America, and that is to vote for your own unless there are extraordinary circumstances leading one away from this social norm.

We hope one day our Robeson County electorate (Indians, Blacks and Whites) will put race aside and vote for the candidate with the best platform. If so, we believe Rose Marie Lowry-Townsend will win hands down. In our opinion, she is eminently more qualified than McIntyre. In the interim, until reason overtakes us, we want to encourage Indians, and Blacks and Whites too, to turn out in overwhelling numbers and vote for Lowry-Townsend on June 4. She is going to need every vote she can get. As noted earlier in this editorial, Mike McIntyre and his campaign staff have met with a number of leaders in the Black community, including the political action committee of the Black Caucus, and have received some endorsements of support. McIntyre has played the "race" card. In spite of McIntyre's trump of the "Race Card", a number of Blacks have indicated that they are going to vote for Rose Marie Lowry-Townsend on June 4 because Black candidates received practically no White support at the polls, especially Tom Jones, Jr. If that is so, and it is, why are some Blacks mad with the Indians and not the Whites? Go figure! Only in Robeson! More next week.

Tribal Council elections set for August 24

Pembroke, N.C. - The Lumbee Tribal Council Elections Board has set August 24, 1996 as Election Day for the Lumbee Tribal Council. Seven seats will be filled, including 1 vacancy in District 15.

Those interested in filling for office have been from June 3 thru June 28 to make application at the tribal office in Pembroke. The office is open weekdays 9:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. According to Mr. Harbert Moore, Chairman of the Tribal Elections Board, each candidate will have to meet the qualifications for office as stated in the Tribal Constitution. Those qualifications are: (1) Must be Lumbee and 21 years of age; (2) Must reside in the tribal district; (3) Cannot hold any public elected office; (4) Cannot be subjected of a felony conviction for

the past 7 years to include any probation or parole time.

Incumbents are: Mr. Eugene Lowery, District 2; Rev. Jerry McNeill, District 5; Mr. Robert Locklear, District 8; Mr. Ponce D. Chavis Jr., District 11; Rev. Steve Locklear, District 14; vacant, District 15; Rev. Hilton Deese, District 17; Mrs. Zelma Locklear, District 20. Each candidate is required to pay a \$50.00 non-returnable filing fee. For further information, please call 910-521-9999.

(The Tribal Elections Board has provided that where an election arises as a result of a vacancy and no more than one (1) qualified candidate exists, that candidate shall be declared the winner, and immediately sworn into office.)

Multigrade and Fifth Grade! What a Good Combination!



The multigrade classes at Pembroke Elementary School are working together with the fifth grade to produce outstanding books. These classes meet every Tuesday for ninety minutes. The fifth grade students are considered to be buddies by the K-1 multigrade children. Together we work through all of the stages of writing: graphic organizers, rough draft, editing and published book. It has been an outstanding learning experience for all of the students and the teachers. The teachers involved in the project are Mrs. Tina Coleman, Mrs. Angella Bissell, Ms. Kay Thompson, Mrs. Brenda Strickland and Mrs. Debbie Locklear.



An outstanding student at Swett High recognized

Angela Galloway, a sophomore, is considered as an outstanding student by teachers and coaches for her determination to perform well, although she is a victim of prosthesis. Angela is a picture of health and seems like any other student, yet she has only one leg. She is not hindered by this handicap and participates in sports and activities with stamina and much effort. "Angela works hard and if other students worked as hard as she does, they would do great," said Terry Jacobs, Angela's track coach. Her ROTC training and activities allow her to also demonstrate physical activities which involve repelling, obstacle training, march, and physical training. Instructors, Major Augustine Vendetti and Sgt. Major Barnie Razor share that Angela has a good attitude, has matured and students have a lot to learn from her. "It makes no difference about my handicap," said Angela. "I'll do anything any others will do. I know if I can do it, these students can do it."

The Red Man's Journal

by Bruce Barton

This column is brought to you as a public service from time to time by Friends of the Carolina Indian Voice, Inc., a non-profit organization devoted to the cause of enhancing the Carolina Indian Voice newspaper. Membership dues are \$10 a year and anyone can join. The only requirement for membership is a desire for the Carolina Indian Voice newspaper to prosper and continue to grow.

Friends of the Carolina Indian Voice, Inc. calls for open membership meeting. Officers are Paul Brooks,

president, Rik Barton, vice-president, Cynthia Hunt, secretary and treasurer, and yours truly as a director. A meeting is announced for Tuesday, May 28, 1996 at 7 p.m. at the offices of the Carolina

Indian Voice, College Plaza, across from Pembroke State University. All members are encouraged to attend this very important meeting. Call 910-521-2826 for further information, or write Friends of the Carolina Indian Voice, P O Box 1075, Pembroke, NC 28372. Officers will be chosen and other necessary business will be transacted at this time.

Communities in Schools Program honors Volunteers

The Communities in Schools Program held an appreciation dinner for volunteer tutors and teachers working with students of Prospect Middle School, Purnell Swett and Pembroke Middle School, on Monday, April 29.

The master of ceremony was Mr. Wade C. Hunt, the area coordinator. Mr. Bill Brewington, principal of Purnell Swett High, welcomed everyone. Mr. Donald Bonner, former assistant superintendent of Robeson County Schools, gave the invocation. The Rams, singes, directed by Mrs. Ellen Jackson, sang several musical selections.

Mr. Noah Woods, principal of Pembroke Middle School, introduced special guests. Mr.

Johnny Hunt, principal of Prospect School, introduced the guest speaker which was Mr. Tommy D. Swett who emphasized how insignificant students may feel at times. He encourages the volunteers with "I hope that you can make a difference." Mrs. Brenda Hunt gave a testimonial. "I find great needs for students and children will always be a part of me."

The Presentation of Certificates was made by Mrs. Shelly Cummings and Mr. Johnny Hunt of Prospect. Mrs. Sharon Locklear and Mr. Bill Brewington of Purnell Swett High School, and Mrs. Maureen Regan and Mr. Noah Woods of Pembroke Middle School. The closing remarks were by Mr. Wade C. Hunt.



Communities in School Committee held an appreciation dinner for volunteers who assist students from Prospect, Pembroke Middle and Purnell Swett High Schools in the Swett High Cafeteria April 29.

Shown left to right: John Ray, Harold Godwin, Wade Hunt, Jonathan Joliceur, Ramona Maynor, Tommy Swett, Maureen Regan, Donald Bonner, Maxine Elliot, and Wendy Harrell.

Tissue Typing planned at Shannon Assembly of God

Shannon Assembly of God Church will be the site for a tissue typing on Saturday, May 25, from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Tissue typing is a procedure whereby two tablespoons of blood are drawn to see if a person is a possible match

for a victim of a blood disease such as leukemia. Many times a bone marrow transplant is the only chance a victim of this disease has to survive. Tissue typing opportunities are being held across the county to increase the number of potential bone marrow donors on the National Bone Marrow Registry. It is important for Native Americans to be added to the list of potential donors. This is because the matching of bone marrow is genetic.