T CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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Lumbee River Legal Services of Pembroke celebrated their 20th anniversary on Friday, October 23, 1998 with a formal banquet and dance at the Bordeaux Holiday Inn in Fayetteville.

Shown above Dale Deese, LRLS executive director is shown presenting a plaque to Cynthia L. Hunt who directs the Indian Law Unit component of Lumbee River Legal Services.

Dale Deese recognizes Alice McLean for nineteen years of service to the organization. She is only two of the employees that have been with LRLS for nineteen years.

Francine Chavis was honored with a plaque in recognition of her nineteen years of service with LRLS by Dale Deese, executive director.
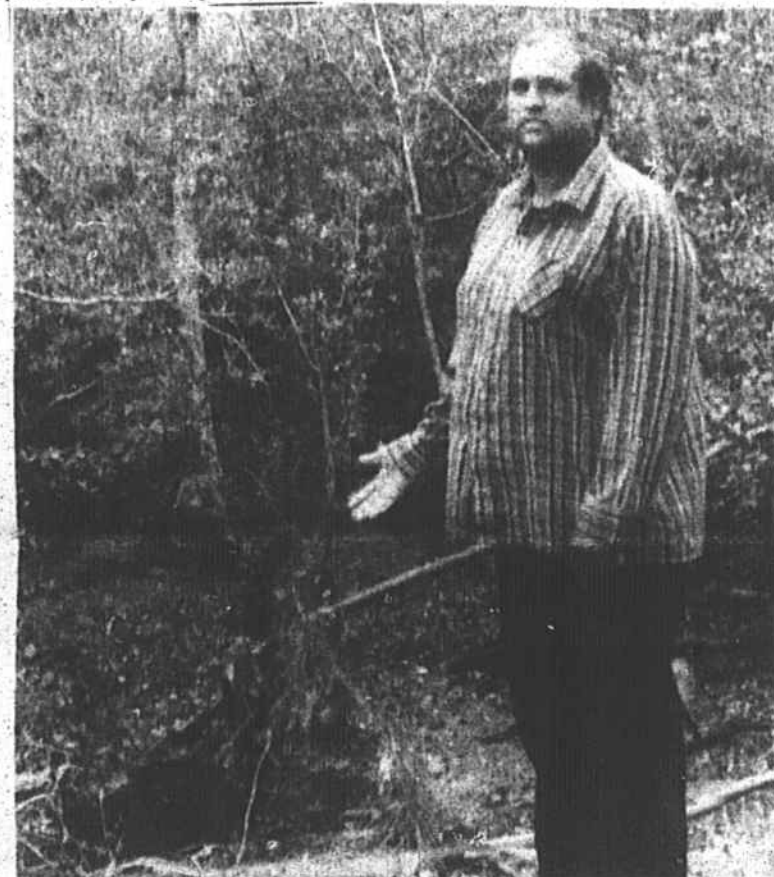
"A Simple Act of Courage"

Mr. Ray McMillian had finished pickin peas on a day like every other day. Little did Mr. McMillian or Mrs. Strickland know that their paths would cross in a moment and a life would be saved, and a man's conviction would be made stronger, that the Lord works in mysterious ways.

Mrs. Catherine Strickland lost control of her car on a very sharp curve located across a creek, which at the time was quite full from previous days of rain. Miss Catherine's car flipped and landed in the waters. She would have been totally submerged if not for her seat belt. Being in the vicinity at the time Mr. McMillian felt an overwhelming urge to help Miss Catherine as she hung there in fear. He stated that he felt a sense of great protection surround him like a shield, and the next step was to jump into the water and save Miss Catherine, as he held her up as much as he could he dis engaged the seat belt and pulled her to the embankment to safety. By this time other people had become aware of the dilemma and brought Miss Catherine some blankets to keep her warm, then the ambulance arrived to take her to the hospital to make sure she was alright. Mr. McMillian stated that he could not rest until Sunday late evening when he found out that she was doing fine.
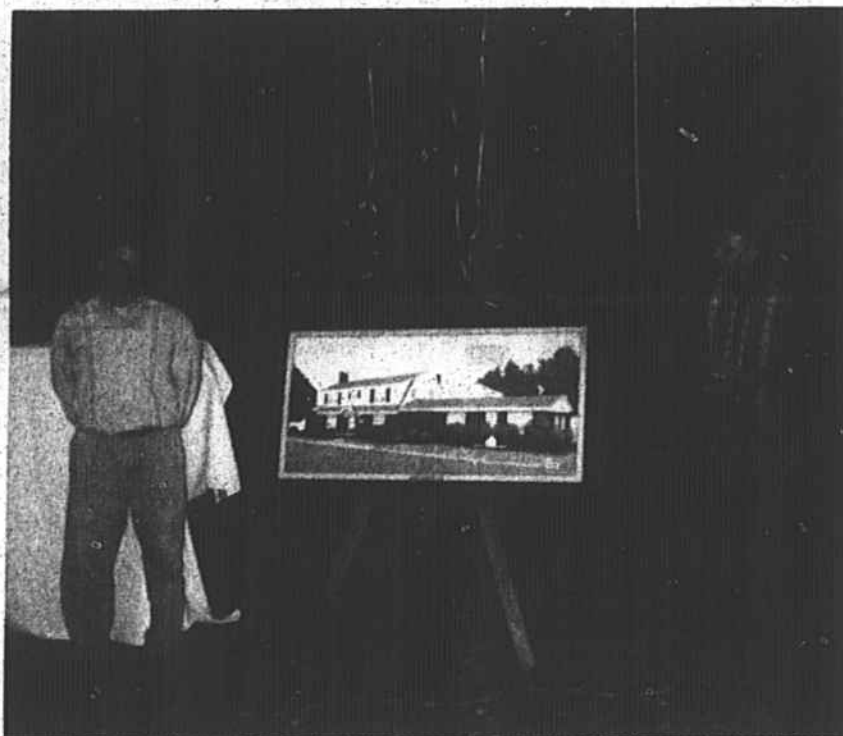
Mr. McMillian has questioned the reason why on this particular curve is there a sign that says 25 m.p.h. then a sign saying 55 m.p.h. We hope that those who are in charge of highways will realize that this incident left us with no serious casualties, thank goodness, but that there is another opportunity for someone to get hurt, if there isn't something done about this stretch of highway. In this instance a life was saved by a courageous man who happened to be in the right place at the right time.

Ryan Hammonds, artist, stands with the painting commissioned for the anniversary. It is a painting of the Julian T. Pierce Law Building which houses Lumbee River Legal Services. Shown right is Robert Locklear who acted as Master of Ceremonies for the event.

John Rim seeks Senate seat

John Rim of Lumberton is seeking a seat in the North Carolina Senate. The Republican Rim is challenging Democrat and incumbent David Weinstein in the Tuesday election.

"All it would take, Rim said, "is for one Republican to get elected in this county. When that happens, the Democrats and the Republicans, will take Robeson County seriously. Until then they will continue to take us for granted.

Since Cutler Moore served in the 1950s, we have not had effective leadership in the Senate.

"Major highway construction of Highway 74, nothing going on at the Farmers's Market, and we're still waiting for that new dorm at UNCP," Rim said.

Rim continued by saying that there are three kinds of counties. Those that are solidly Democratic, those that are solidly Republican; and those who have a viable two party system. He recognized that Robeson was one of the solidly Democratic counties.

Because the electorate in Robeson is so predictable, Rim stated, there is really no serious investment in the county by either party.

Rim acknowledges there is a way to change that. Elect a Republican. When that happens, he said, it will be recognized in Raleigh and then folks will say that the voters are not so predictable. Then they cannot ignore Robeson. "Then we can get what we are entitled to," he said. "Respect first," he said and then the material things will come. If one Republican is elected to office we will have sent the message that we are no longer a one party dictatorship. Then both parties will start romancing voters."

The Honorable Dexter Brooks, Senior Resident Superior 1 Judge, delivers a speech detailing the history of the organization during its 20th anniversary celebration banquet.

A contradiction in signs. One sign near the curve says 25 mph another says 55. (Story and photos by Maria Rojas)

Ray McMillan points to the creek on the Cherokee Chapel Road that he helped rescue an elderly lady from. At the time the creek was full of water.

Gov. Hunt gives strong endorsement to Sen. David Weinstein

Lumberton- North Carolina Gov. Jim Hunt is asking voters to support state Sen. David Weinstein in the Nov. 3 elections, saying he needs Weinstein in the General Assembly to keep moving North Carolina forward.

"David Weinstein is one of our state's strongest advocates for schools and children," Hunt said this week. "Because of his leadership, Smart Start is flourishing and we're doing more than ever to get and keep the best teachers in our public schools."

The future of North Carolina's efforts to improve schools, give children a better start and continue its successful welfare reform depends on the leadership of strong advocates like Weinstein, Hunt said.

* Weinstein is one of the leaders in enacting the Excellent Schools Act, which will boost teacher standards and pay to the national average by 2000. It also holds teachers and schools accountable, with rewards for success and consequences for failure. Weinstein has also worked to reduce class size, to pass tough new laws to keep schools safer, and to make sure students graduate with skills they need to succeed in the workplace.

* Weinstein has worked to make our communities safer. Thanks to senators like him, North Carolina has the toughest drunk driving laws in the country, stronger laws to stop domestic violence, and criminal background checks for day-care workers.

*Weinstein has pushed to make WorkFirst, North Carolina's welfare reform effort, work better. WorkFirst requires welfare recipients to get a job or job training in 12 weeks- or lose benefits. He also supported a provision to keep drug dealers from getting welfare benefits. Since WorkFirst began, North Carolina's welfare rolls have dropped 45 percent and more than 63,000 families have gone from welfare to work.

*Weinstein won the fight to bring Smart Start - North Carolina's initiative to help all children get a good start with good, affordable child care and health care - to all 100 counties. So far, Smart Start has helped more than 100,000 children get higher quality early childhood education; more than 97,000 children get preventive health care; and more than 26,000 child care teachers get better education, training and pay; and more than 60,000 moms and dads get parent and health education.

"We've made a good start in North Carolina, but we have a lot more work to do, "Hunt said. "Voters in the 30th District need strong leaders like David Weinstein in the state Senate. And we need him on our team to help keep North Carolina headed in the right direction."

Weinstein is a Democrat who represents Bladen, Cumberland, Hoke, Robeson and Sampson counties.

Endorses McIntyre

Washington - U.S. Rep. Mike McIntyre has won yet another endorsement by a major veterans organization.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars has endorsed McIntyre in his bid for re-election to Congress.

John M. Carney, Director of the VFW Political Action Committee, said in a statement that McIntyre received the endorsement because of his support for veteran's rights and a strong national defense. More than 2 million veterans are members of the VFW.

Just recently, McIntyre was endorsed by another veterans group, the National Vietnam & Gulf War Veterans Coalition.

McIntyre is a member of the National Security Committee and has co-sponsored 19 bills related to veterans and military issues.