

CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

"Building Communicative Bridges In A Tri

Mary Livermore
UNCP

Library

Volume 27 Number 47

Thursday, November 23, 2000

Pembroke

NC

28372

25°

Official Winners of Tribal Election Announced: One District to Re-run

The Elections Board of the Lumbee Self-Determination Commission has certified the following candidates as representatives on the Lumbee Tribal Government: Milton R. Hunt, Chairman; Larece Hunt, District 1; Larmari L. Mitchell, District 2; Rev. Jimmy Hunt and H. Dobbs Oxendine, District 3; James (Jimmie) Goins and Rhonda Locklear, District 4; Henry Clay Chavis, District 5 and the second seat is pending; Reginald Oxendine, District 6; Randall S. Jones and Delton Oxendine, District 7; Danita Locklear, District 8; Linda O. Hammonds, District 9; Craig D. McMillian, District 10; Mike C. McNeill, District 11; Walter Martin Lowery, District 12; Traci Locklear Guerra and James Hardin, District 13; Darlene Jacobs, District 14; William Lonnie Revels

Sr., District 15; Rosa Revels Winfree, District 16; Roderick (Rod) G. Locklear, District 17; and Daucey F. Brewington, District 18.

According to Leroy Freeman, Chairman of the LSD Board of Elections, District 5 candidates Gerald Strickland and Rev. Steve Locklear will hold a re-election within approximately 30 days. This decision was made because 97 provisional ballots at the Prospect Precinct were placed in the ballot box when they should have been placed in a provisional envelope to be set aside until verification of tribal enrollment.

Other members of the Board of Elections included Larry Locklear, pastor of Island Grove Baptist Church; Kent Chavis of the Red Springs Lumbee Bank and pastor of Pembroke First Baptist Church; and Bobby Dean

Locklear, LRDA board member and member of the LSD Commission.

The LSD Commission will meet on Saturday, November 25, 2000. The elections board will certify the election and their results will be sent directly to Judge Howard Manning who established the LSD Commission. The LSD Commission, according to Chairman Freeman, will not certify the elections. They will, however, hear any grievances when appealed from the board of elections.

Candidates have 24 hours to issue grievances and the board has 48 hours to respond. The complainant can then appeal to the LSD Commission, if not satisfied. According to information distributed by the Board of Elections, the "decision of the LSDC will be final" on appeals.

A Tribute to Ralph Hunt: A True Tribal Icon



RALPH HUNT: A TRUE TRIBAL ICON

by Cynthia L. Hunt

Mr. Ralph Hunt passed away Saturday, November 18, 2000, at his home in Lumberton. He is survived by two daughters, Jacqueline and Marion Hunt; one granddaughter, Elena Marie Hunt; and one brother, Charles Hunt. Preceded in death by his parents Dozier and Marion Hunt, he was 66 years old.

Mr. Ralph, as he was commonly referred to, was truly an icon of the Lumbee tribe. He was both an educational and political leader of the tribe, as well as one of the tribe's most successful businessmen. He at-

tended school at Fairmont and was a graduate of Pembroke State University. Mr. Ralph also received a Masters' Degree from Appalachian State University. His career in education began in 1955 as a teacher at Fairgrove School, where he would later serve as the principal. Mr. Ralph was also the coach of the basketball team at that time. He held the record as the "most winning" Coach among the Indian schools. He would go on to serve as principal at Union Chapel School. In the 1970s, Mr. Ralph retired from the public school system of Robeson County.

The political career of Mr. Ralph began in the 1970s, when he was elected to serve on the Robeson County Board of Education. During his term of service, he was the first American Indian to serve as Chairman of the Board. This was prior to the school merger and was no easy task in the County at that time. Mr. Ralph would heighten his service for the tribe by being instrumental in the hiring of the first American Indian school superintendent. Although this was his only elected political position in the County, he did not leave the political arena. Mr. Ralph became essential to the political advancement of tribal members. Effective in working the County's political machine, always in the best interest of the Lumbee tribe, he was a significant factor in the election of Robeson County's first American Indian Sheriff, Glenn Maynor, a

member of the Lumbee tribe. Mr. Ralph also worked with candidates for positions in both the state and federal government. A private, modest individual, Mr. Ralph possessed the unique ability to successfully strategize almost any political campaign.

As a businessman, Mr. Ralph was the owner of People's tobacco warehouse. He was one of the first tribal members to achieve success in the business. Mr. Ralph served as the interim president of Lumbee Guaranty Bank, as well as serving as a member of the bank's Board of Directors. It can be said that his service during this time was essential to the institution's current success.

Mr. Ralph's career included serving on the Board of Directors of Lumbee Regional Development Association, Inc. He was a member of the tribe's Federal Recognition Committee and most recently served on the Lumbee Self-Determination Commission. He was appointed to the Commission by Judge Howard E. Manning and served as the Chairman of the Elections Board until his illness forced him to resign the position.

The career of Mr. Ralph spanned almost five decades. In that time he accomplished many firsts and was dedicated to the advancement of the Lumbee tribe. We will certainly miss the innate wisdom he possessed and we will remember Mr. Ralph, a true tribal icon.



Sales Associate Summer Chavis, right, holds up a photo of the Lumbee Ring as designer Timothy P. Locklear II points out the highlights of the historic design.

The unveiling of the Lumbee Ring was the highlight of the Grand Opening and ribbon cutting at Cyna's Diamonds and Jewelers Inc. in Pembroke on Saturday, November 18, at 1 p.m.

More next week on the unique business and the Lumbee ring. (Photo by UNCP Photographer Bobby Ayers)

Carnell Locklear to be spokesperson for Eddie Hatcher Defense Committee

The Eddie Hatcher Defense Committee has retained Carnell Locklear as public relations spokesperson.

Mr. Locklear is a long time Tuscarora Activist and has been involved in the Indian movement over 30 years. He is well known within the county and has spoken on Eddie's behalf in several states.

Mr. Locklear can be reached at PO box 545, Pembroke, N.C. 28372. Telephone # 910-521-0495

The Word of God is special.

For example, Mathew 7 vers e 7.
If you ask- you will receive
If you seek - you will find.
If you knock- The door will be open.

What the Word of God says is special. This tells us 3 times (the trinity), if we have a need - lock to God and He will respond positively. No only what it says- but the number of time it is stated, is special - 3 times. Think about it, 3 times; as if the Father said it. The Son says it and the Holy Spirit says. For me that's a definite affirmative. That's special. Look where this verse is placed. Remember the number 7 stands for perfection and completion. Yes Mathew 7-7 is special. Ask, seek knock- The response from God is promised to be positive.
TYJ



"Through Native Eyes" Stars guest appearance for opening of Festival. Left to right: Robert Locklear (Henry Berry Lowrie); Mychalene Deese (Rhoda Lowrie); Dr. Will Moreau Goins (Directors of Native Film Festival); Timothy B. Jacobs (Steve Lowrie) and Van Coleman (Producer/Director).

Pembroke locals honored at the 3rd Annual Native American Indian Film Festival in South Carolina

The Eastern Cherokee, Southern Iroquois and United Tribes of South Carolina, Inc. was again leading the statewide observance of NATIONAL NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH 2000 in South Carolina. They have sponsored this statewide observance since 1994 when they did presentations at many schools in S.C. including Heathwood Hall School in Columbia. During November and throughout the entire year ESIUT raises awareness to the general public about Native American Indian's contributions to South Carolina's history and America's culture by doing extensive "out-reach" educational presentations to public and parochial schools and in the various communities and civic organizations throughout the state. Governor Jim Hodges also declared November 2000 as South Carolina Native American Heritage Month, this year. The Native American Indian Heritage Month is celebrated to stimulate public interest and pride in South Carolinian Native American Indian Tribes and their contributions to South Carolina culture and history. It is celebrated also to increase public awareness of the Native American Indian people that are presently organized in SC, as tribal sovereign nations and tribes. In the Month of November the ECSIUT attempts to heighten awareness of the present-day contemporary cultures of the Native tribes and groups here in SC. The aim was to re-educate and teach the general public about the Indian experience.

In accomplishing that of re-education the Eastern Cherokee, Southern Iroquois and United Tribes Inc. offered to be a resource of information for any

teacher in South Carolina regarding Native American culture. "It is important that we celebrate the special Native Indian heritage and history of South Carolina. Most people don't realize that the Capital City, Columbia was once Cherokee land," stated Dr. Will Moreau Goins (Eastern Band Cherokee/ Tuscarora & Lumbee/ Cheraw ancestry), and CEO of the ESIUT a.k.a. The Cherokee Indian Tribe of South Carolina. "Our organization continues to do "out-reach presentations" into the community and schools, and also we sponsored by the Columbia Film Society," stated Goins. Dr. Will Moreau Goins, whose Grandfather, William Goins, was born in the "Red Banks in 1990 and grew up near Pembroke in the "Prospect community" and whose father grew up in Fayetteville, North Carolina, has North Carolina ties that he is proud of.

Local Legend and folk hero HENRY BERRY LOWRIE was the subject of the film that premiered on the evening on Monday 13th of November. "Through Native Eyes: the Henry Berry Lowrie Story" kicked off the week of celebration in honor of Native American Heritage Month. Produce/ Director Van Coleman, and film stars Robert Locklear (Henry Berry Lowrie) and Timothy B. Jacobs (Steve Lowrie) were the honored guests for the reception that followed the showing. An open floor was held for the media and festival patrons, answering questions and providing photo opportunities. "It was an honor, for me to introduce my fellow actors and filmmakers from "home" (North Carolina) including: Van Coleman from Gibson, North Carolina; Robert Locklear from Pembroke; and Timothy Bryan Jacobs from

Maxton- Pembroke area, to the enthusiastic crowds attending the opening night of the Native Film Festival, stated Dr. Goins.

The 3rd Annual Native American Indian Film Festival this year had an exciting array of Native American made films. Documentaries, dramas, legends & myths and featuring ancient and contemporary Native American Indian culture. The movies that were featured include "On and off the Rez," a documentary about the famous Mohawk comedian by Sandy Osawa, a Native American Indian filmmaker. A dramatic historical film by Van Coleman, "Through Native Eyes; The Henry Berry Lowrie Story." Also, "The Legend; The Story of Siwash Rock", and "To Return: The John Walkus Story" from Native American Indian Filmmaker, Annie Frazier Henry were also shown and many other films from November 13th to November 16th. "I was so proud to have the Henry Berry Lowrie Story shown during this film festival, since that story is part of my North Carolina heritage and history," stated Dr. Will Moreau Goins. Coordinator of the Film Festival, it made me feel proud and it was great to show the people of South Carolina about the hero Henry Berry Lowrie.

"Through Native Eyes" received rave reviews from local South Carolina newspapers. Coleman's film has transcended his intended aim for the classroom. This Crystal Award of Distinction winner, inducted into the "Local Legacies" project of the U.S. Library of Congress, continues to gain recognition and applause. Coleman's "labor of Love" has left many anticipating the next project from this local gem.

Count Your Blessings!

Looks as though writing about my November blues last year must have helped! So far I've been enjoying this November - in spite of a wet, dreary weekend and voting uncertainties.

And, of course, this month is the special time when we sit aside at least one day to eat turkey and give thanks for the Maker of turkeys, and everything else in the natural world around us. Also for our families, friends, lovedones. And for a country where we are still often realize.

Let's take time out on Thursday and every day (from 5-10 minutes up to an hour or two) to "count our many blessings- which include that first Thanksgiving celebration between the Native people of New England and a group from Europe who had arrived looking for a place to worship their God freely.

Community /Tribal Meeting planned

A tribal community meeting will be held on November 30, 2000 from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at the Native American Resource Center located in the Old Main Building on the campus of the University of North Carolina at Pembroke. This meeting is being sponsored by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Atlanta, Georgia, and the North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, Epidemiology and Communicable Disease Section, Raleigh, North Carolina to address the recent outbreak of Syphilis among the tribal members in Robeson County. This is a

major health threat to the county and local tribal communities. There will be open discussion to address strategies to intensify efforts to control syphilis in Robeson County.

Any interested tribal or community member can attend. For more information about the meeting contact Jan Scott at 919-715-3688 or Craig Wilkins at 404-639-8799 or Dean Seneca at 404-639-7223.

Refreshments will be served.