

National Library Week celebrated at UNCP

PEMBROKE, N.C.—The Sampson-Livemore Library at UNC Pembroke will celebrate National Library Week with a series of events from April 2-6.

The annual Book Sale begins at Monday, April 2, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. and runs through Friday, April 6.

Winners of the annual Poetry and Prose Contest will read their works at 3 p.m., Wednesday in Moore Hall Auditorium. A reception honoring campus authors will follow.

The 10th Annual Library Week Banquet is Friday, April 6 at 6 p.m. in the Chancellor's Dining Room. A reception will precede the event at 5:30. Featured speaker is UNCP geography Prof. Tom Ross. A longtime faculty member, Dr. Ross is an expert on Carolina bays and published a complete bibliography on the bays this year. Last year he published "American Indians in North Carolina." Dinner is \$20 and reservations may be made by calling 521-6212.

Spring Festival to be held in Cheraw, South Carolina

Cheraw, SC kicks off the season with its 26th Spring Festival, March 30- April 1. This celebration was named South Carolina's most outstanding small town festival last year. Events begin at 5 PM on Friday with a Gospel Jubilation and tennis tournament. Saturday events include BBQ, puppets, lantern tours, canoe floats, giant slide, street dance and petting zoo. On both Saturday (10 AM- 5 PM) and Sunday (12-5 PM) there will be an arts and craft show, entertainment, food, trolley rides, a Fine Arts Show, climbing wall, Civil War battle and camp and antiques fair. On Sunday there will also be a classic car show. Main sites are Riverside Park, Market Street, and the Cheraw Community Center. Many events are free. Call (843) 537-8420 for more information.

McIntyre Urges President to Purchase Army Berets from American Companies

Washington, D.C. - U.S. Representative Mike McIntyre announced today that he has written President Bush urging him to reverse the Army's decision to purchase 2.5 million black berets from companies that will manufacture these items in foreign countries. Congressman McIntyre has asked the President to allow U.S. companies the opportunity to produce these berets.

Representative McIntyre stated, "I am outraged by the Army's decision to purchase berets from foreign suppliers when we have individuals right here in southeastern North Carolina who are willing and able to do the work and who need the jobs. In fact, the Army is required by law to purchase its clothing from companies in the United States. To disregard this law with a waiver is an affront to American workers everywhere." In his letter to the President, Congressman McIntyre also expressed his concerns that the purchase of

these berets from foreign companies will be more expensive for American taxpayers. It has been reported that the cost of a beret made overseas is \$9 compared to \$4.75 that would be charged by U.S. companies.

On October 17, 2000, the Army Chief of Staff issued a change in the Army's uniform policy by requiring all soldiers to be outfitted with a black beret by June 14, 2001. To meet the Army's order for millions of black berets, the Pentagon chose to waive a federal law which requires the Department of Defense to buy clothing made in U.S. factories of 100 percent American components. As a result, 2.5 million black berets, which under normal circumstances would have been made by U.S. companies, will be purchased from China, Sri Lanka, India, South Africa, and Canada for a reported total of over \$26 million, Congressman McIntyre is a member of the House Armed Services Committee.

First Nations Development Institute 20 Year Report honored as "model of Excellence"

FREDERICKSBURG, Va.—Creativity and hard work are keys to good communication. Both qualities are on display in the First Nations Development Institute 20 Year Report, which has been awarded a Wilmer Shields Rich Award for Excellence in Communications. Sponsored by the Council on Foundations and the Communications Network, the awards recognize communications that increase public awareness of foundation and corporate charitable programs. The award letter from Council on Foundations President Dorothy S. "Dot" Ridings said the report "demonstrates... commitment to public accountability and effective communications and serves as a model of excellence for other grantmakers." First Nations Development Institute was founded in 1980 with the mission of assisting American Indian Tribes and Native communities to rebuild their economies through asset-based community economic development. First Nations programs and strategies help tribes and Native communities to control and retain their assets.

"This is very exciting for us," said First Nations Founder and President Rebecca Adamson. "A good report not only informs, it also provides meaning through its pages. We saw the 20 Year Report as a way to both review the development of First Nations over the years and to get at the meaning of our work, at what it means to bring Indian culture into play in the processes of economic development. Our commitment to control of assets within Native American culture is the foundation of all that we have accomplished."

B. Thomas Vigil, whose Chairman's Message opens the report, expressed the organization's thanks to the Council on Foundations and its judges for the prestigious award. The award will be presented at the 52nd Annual Conference of the Council on Foundations in Philadelphia, May 1. Copies of the First Nations Development Institute 20 Year Report can be obtained for \$20 from Lynn Rankins at www.firstnations.org, or telephone (540)371-5615

FirstHealth Completes Acquisition of Richmond Memorial Hospital

PINEHURST, N.C.—FirstHealth of the Carolinas' acquisition of FirstHealth Richmond Memorial Hospital is complete.

FirstHealth acquired the assets of Richmond Memorial for \$44 million. After paying off existing debt, about \$30 million will go into a new Richmond Community Foundation to fund health care-related charitable efforts in Richmond county.

During the March 1 celebration of this partnership, Robert Hutchinson, Chairman of the Richmond Memorial Board of Trustees, praised FirstHealth for enhancing the hospital's services during the long, and sometimes difficult, acquisition. He also addressed the benefits for the community.

"We have a community foundation now that will be for the benefit of all the citizens in Richmond County," Hutchinson said. "We also have 550 jobs with FirstHealth here in the county whose numbers had we not gone this route might otherwise be much lower than 550."

Prior to the acquisition, other health care entities in Richmond County had already become a part of FirstHealth. These include Rich-

mond Mobile Health Services, Ellerbe Family Medicine, Richmond Family Medicine, Hamlet Medical Clinic, Carolina Family Medicine and Richmond Home Health. "This consolidation is a major win-win for the community," said John Jackson, Chief Executive Officer at FirstHealth Richmond Memorial Hospital. "The county will continue to benefit from a solid community hospital that is being enhanced by FirstHealth. The second win is the new community foundation. The grants from this foundation will go a long way toward improving the health of people in the county." Richmond Memorial has been operating under a management agreement with FirstHealth since Oct. 1, 1999. During that time, FirstHealth has established a Center for Health & Fitness adjacent to the hospital and has begun to staff the Hospital's 24-hour Emergency Department with physicians trained in emergency medicine.

Charles T. Frock, President and CEO of FirstHealth of the Carolinas, stressed that the partnership between FirstHealth and Richmond Memorial will mean enhancing ex-

isting services and introducing new ones.

"We've started the process for a master facility plan to enhance our current services and prepare us for expansion in the near future," Frock said. "The community is already benefiting from increased availability of cardiovascular services and a new Center for Health & Fitness. We're also looking at expanding and renovating the Emergency Department at FirstHealth Richmond Memorial." Founded in 1952, Richmond Memorial is licensed for 159 beds, serving Richmond and surrounding counties. The facility underwent major expansions in 1962, 1975 and 1980. The most recent addition occurred in November 1997 with the opening of a new Birthing Center wing.

FirstHealth of the Carolinas is an integrated, not-for-profit, health care network providing comprehensive medical services to a 16-county region in North and South Carolina. In addition to Richmond Memorial, the FirstHealth network also includes Moore Regional Hospital in Pinehurst and Montgomery Memorial Hospital in Troy.

Are YOU a Lumbee writer?
If so, then YOU are invited to submit your work (poetry, short story, etc.) for consideration to be published in the FIRST Lumbee Anthology of creative writing.



Mail entries to: Lumbee Anthology, PO Box 3758, Pembroke, NC 28372; or for more information contact Daystar Dial at 910-843-2406 or Barbara Collins at 910-521-3444.
DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS: 30 June 2001

This project is sponsored in part by the Native American Resource Center, University of North Carolina at Pembroke.

Jill McCorkle is subject of daylong conference at UNCP

The English Department at The University of North Carolina at Pembroke presents "From 'The Cheer Leader' to 'Final Vinyl Day': The Art of Jill McCorkle."

The public is invited to the daylong conference on the works of the award-winning author on Friday, March 30, at 9 a.m., in Room 225 of the Dial Humanities Building. An award-winning novelist, Ms. McCorkle is a Lumberton native who currently teaches writing at Harvard University. "Ms. McCorkle is an important voice in American letters, and her work has been widely praised by important national critics," said UNCP English Professor Josef Mandel, who organized the conference.

"I realized it was time to honor Jill's work with a conference," Dr. Mandel said. "I got in touch with her last year to inform her of my project, and she was thrilled and immediately agreed to come to UNCP for the event."

The event is timely because Ms. McCorkle's work is the subject of a new scholarly work by Barbara Bennett entitled "Understanding Jill McCorkle." Ms. Bennett will be a presenter at the UNCP conference. In addition, Paul Ferguson of UNC Chapel Hill has written a musical, "Good Old Girls," based on characters in the works of Lee Smith and Ms. McCorkle. The play is headed for an Off-Broadway production. Mr. Ferguson is also a presenter.

Here is the conference program:

Welcome: Dr. Roger Brown, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Introduction: Dr. Joe Mandel, conference director

Session 1: (9:00-10:15) Chair: Dr. Nancy Barrineau, ETL Department

1. Karen W. Martin, Lambuth University, "The Virgin Mary, Gidget, and the Total Woman: Constructing the Self in 'The Cheer Leader'"

2. Harriette C. Buchanan, Appalachian State University, "Chains of Love: Mother-Daughter Relationships in Jill McCorkle's Fiction"

3. Barbara Bennett, Wake Forest University, "Thelma and Louise in Wonderland: McCorkle's Feminist Revision of Fairytales"

4. Katherine James, Barton College, "Changing Racial Attitudes in the Fiction of Jill McCorkle"

Session 2: (10:30- 11:45) Chair: Dr. Jesse Peters, ETL Department

1. Brian C. Ferguson-Avery, Georgia Southwestern University, "I Know You Like a Book" The Use of Knowledge and Gender in Jill McCorkle's Short Stories"

2. Shannon Ravenel, Algonquin Books, "Editing Jill McCorkle's Writing"

3. Steven Byrd, UNC Pembroke, "Jill McCorkle's Small Hometown"

4. Nancy Olson, Quail Ridge Books, "A Brief History of Jill McCorkle's

Readings at Quail Ridge"

Session 3: (2:00- 3:30) Chair: Dr. Susan Cannata, ETL Department

1. Bethany Perkins, UNC Greensboro, "Journey to Secular Spiritualism: Religious Ideology in Jill McCorkle's Final Vinyl Days"

2. Diane B. Jones, N.C. State University, "Final Vinyl Days": Story Cycles, Life Cycles"

3. Sarah Whalen, "A Performance of Jill McCorkle's short story 'Crash Diet'"

4. Paul Ferguson, UNC Chapel Hill, "Adapting McCorkle's Fiction to the Stage"

Response: Jill McCorkle

Jill McCorkle is a graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1980 and from the Hollins College Master Program in Writing in 1981. She has written five novels: "The Cheer Leader," "July 7th," "Tending to Virginia," "Ferris Beach," and "Carolina Moon," and two collections of short stories, "Crash Diet" and "Final Vinyl Days."

McCorkle made literary history when her first two novels were published simultaneously by Algonquin Books of Chapel Hill. Her fiction has been selected four times by the *New York Times Book Review* for its Notable Books of the Year list.

In 1999, she received the North Carolina Award for Literature from Governor James Hunt. Jill McCorkle lives in the Boston area with her husband and her two young children.



FUNDRAISER AUCTION

FOR

EVAN'S CROSSROADS FIRE DEPT.

Friday, March 30th, 2001 at 7:00 p.m.

Evan's Crossroads Fire Dept.
3840 Elrod Rd. 1153
Maxton, N.C. 28364

Partial List

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Indian Dolls
Porcelain Dolls
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Terms: Cash or approved check the day of the sale.
Notice: All merchandise will be sold, as is--no warranty.
All merchandise should be moved on the day of the sale.
* Items are subject to be added or deleted. *

For more information and directions, call:
Lee Oxendine at (910) 521-0566