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MT. AIRY NEWS

BY Violet Locklear

Rev. Cardell Oxendine of Charlotte, NC delivered the message on Sunday morning at Mt. Airy Church. Also present was his wife. Rev. Oxendine is the son of Mr. Norman Oxendine. The Bro-therhood rendered special music.

Attending the homecoming and Sunday morning service at Green Pines Baptist Church were Mr. and Mrs. Ovve Lee Locklear and daguhter, Mrs. Beatrice Locklear and daughter, Mrs. Violet Locklear, Misses Zina Sampson and Norlean Oxendine.

Miss Michelle Sampson, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Rudolph Sampson underwent minor surgery at Southeastern General Hospital last week. She is home now and doing fine.

Going to the polls to vote last Tuesday were Mrs. Rockie Jane Locklear, approaching her 89th birthday, the oldest member of the Mt. Airy community, Also, Mrs. Flor-elle Oxendine, age 93, of the Union Chapel community. They were transported by Mrs. Strawdy. Cummings. These two young ladies were on the job.

holders meeting on Nov. 4th which was held at the Ovens Auditorium in Charlotte. En-tertainment was by Arthur Smith and his band. It was a nice program after which a free lunch was served.

Lillte Monica Kay Maynor celebrated her 3rd birthday Saturday, Nov. 6 at the home of her parents, Mr: and Mrs. Tommy Lynn Maynor. Those helping her to enjoy her day were Selenia Barton, Terre Rennee Tyner, Robbie Dexter

Locklear, Bruce Bell Jones, Connie Locklear, Tommy and James Lenard Carter, Samatha Oxendine, Tommy Scott, Zina and Delina Sampson, James Oxendine, Abby and Demetrice Clark, Camallia Oxendine, Debbie Lou Locklear, India Lowery and Marinia Clark. They served hot dogs, potato chips, cookies, candy and drinks, etc. She received a lot of beautiful gifts and money, Everyone wished her many more birthdays to come.

Mr. James Henry Locklear is a patient in Southeastern General Hospital where he underwent surgery. We sure hope him the best of luck.



Mrs. Rockie J. Maynor and daughter, Monica Kay Maynor

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BETWEEN NOW AND CHRISTMAS!

The Life and Times of Henry Berry Lowry

When the case came to trial, however, the prosecution encountered difficulties. Their case relied heavily upon the confession of John Dial, a member of the Gang himself. Dial contended that the confession was untrue and that it had been extracted from him by the use of force. That left only the testimony of Shoemaker John (Eli Ewin), a former slave and shoe cobbler. Shoemaker John was being held, along with three other Lowry Gang members, in the Lumberton jail. On April 2, 1870 a woman was allowed to visit the outlawed captives. Reportedly she had an auger concealed somewhere on her person which the captives made good use of, escaping through a hold cut through the jail wall.

The Lowry Gang members' prospects of being set free looked poor notwithstanding the filmsly evidence against them; Daniel L. Russell swaresiding judge. Russell's brother was among the whites who had recently murdered Malcolm Sanderson, an Indian. Quite naturally, Russell sentenced Applewhite and Lowry to hang.

The pair were taken to the tight-security jail in Wilmington for security precautions. Stephen Lowry and George Applewhite brought to four the number of Lowry Gang members incarcerated in the Wilmington jail; Calvin and Henderson Oxendine, brothers (& first cousins of Henry Berry Lowry's) were being held there pending their trial date.

Realizing that thus far no ordinary jail had been successful in holding the Lowry Gang, the sheriff took special pains to insure against escape. His special prisoners were placed in a special cell within the main cell block; indeed they were placed in a jail cell within the main jail cell. If they were successful in breaking out of the special cell the captives would still have the solid brick walls to deal with. A 24-hour-a-day guard was on duty at all times.

Sunday, June 12, Sylvester Capps, a Black was on guard duty. The night seemed no different from the many other eventless in lights Capps had experienced as guard. At 2:00 in the morning he checked the cell doors and finding them secure went upstairs to the kitchen and conversed for a while with another guard that was there. The two guards stepped out onto the prison yard and continued their conversation. Afterwards Capps returned to his post upstairs. To his astonishment and dismay, however, stark reality slapped him in the face: the cell was empty. Capps sounded the alarm but it was too late. The prisoners had simply vanished. Sheriff Schenck, who incidentally was the originator and go-between of the almost successful Saunders scheme to win the Indians' trust which culminated in Saunders' death, ordered Capps, the Black guard arrested for aiding the prison-rested for aiding the prisontrust which culminated in Saunders' death, ordered Capps, the Black guard arrested for aiding the prisoners in their escape. Sheriff Schenck was mistaken in his assumption and charge, however; following is the method the prisoners employed to escape (from "To Die Game" by W. McKee Evans):

to Capps it seemed hardly edible, there was at least one

who knew how the prisoners had gotten away. Wille Harper, a white prisoner, though he slept in the debtor's section, enjoyed considerable freedom to wander about the jail and keep up with what was going on. Some time back

freedom to wander about the jail and keep up with what was going on. Some time back Harper had withessed a Lowry ruse, seemingly designed to distract guards and prisoners alike, a subterfuge superbly addressed to the special circumstances of prison life. He had seen a 'young lady' come to the door of the jail and inquire of the guard concerning a certain 'Richardson.' 'Most of the prisoners were chere, listening and looking at her. At the same time, 'Harper watched Stephen Lowry 'hauli in the hatchet, chisel and file.' by a string pulled surreptitiously through the jail window. 'The 'young lady' who created this diversion may have been Rhoda Lowry, the wife of Henry Berry. There is a confused oral tradition, not written down until months later and containing some incorrect details, which holds that the Indian girl made the eighty-mile trip to Wilmington on foot in order to take part in an escape plan. Certainly the sensation the 'young lady' caused at the jail is similar to the impression Rhoda Lowry made wherever she went. Also it seems reasonable that Rhoda would have walked to Wilmington. Had she taken her train, for example, she would almost certainly have been recognized, since there were countless males in Robeson County who could identify Rhoda Lowry without the slightest difficulty and often from an unlikely distance. However, once she was in Wilmington, where she was not generally known, she could have moved about freely, readily passing for white.

I want to thank each one of you for your fine support. May God bless each of you. I know all the votes I got were for the man and not the party. I say again thanks. Carnell Locklear

Tabor City 21

Pembroke 16

TABOR CITY — Tabor City held off a late Pembroke rally and took a 21-16 win in a high school football game Friday night. The non-conference win left Tabor City with a 91 record for the season. Pembroke finished at 4-5.

Pembroke took the early lead on a 56-yard pass from Travis Sampson to William Lowery. Charles Vereen tied the score for Tabor City with a 23-yard run and conversion tally. Vereen with a 23-yard run and conversion tally. Vereen word more than 100 yards ushing on the night. Later scores by Tyrone Kelly and Billy Scott, on a recovery of a blocked punt. Later scores by Tyrone Kelly and Billy Scott, on a recovery of a blocked punt. Steve Piphins scored late in the game for Pembroke. A conversion pass from Sampson, who threw for more than 100 yards, narrowed the margin to five points, but Pembroke could not come up with another score.

Magnolia loses

MAXTON — Maxton High School moved up its final game of the regular football season to Thursday night, and the Eagles crushed Magnolia 60-0.

The victory gives Maxton a 9-1 record as they prepare to defend their state 1-A football crown in the post-season playoffs which begin next week.

Prospect wins & advances

Prospect Cats completed their third year of varsity competition with a 28-6 win over the Clarkton Blue Devils 28-6 propeiling them into a second place the in the Cape Fear Conference with Tar Heel. For the Cats, it means that they will be the odds on choice to represent the Cape Fear in the state playoffs. Prospect was led by a superb defense and the hard running of Jeffery Cummings, Cummings teld all rushers in the game with a total of 164 yards on the ground.

game were Timmie Locklear and Chris Clark, Locklear with a fumble recovery and two pass interceptions, and Clark with two fumble recoveries. Milton

two fumble recoveries. Milton Locklear, and Tommy Chavis also recovered fumbles for the Cats.

The Cats will be traveling to the mountains to battle Robbinsville, a name that is familiar to Robeson County fans from the last two years in IA-playoff action. The Cats were jubilant over their win and Coach James Howard Locklear has built the Cats into contenders in just three years of varisty football.







A PROFILE OF WILLIAM FRENCH PAUL

hy h locklear



Staging plays in a tent in the back of one's home is a big contrast to staging productions in Hollywood, Califorina; yet Pembroke's Willie French Paul has done both.

The Lumbee Indian, having returned to his native Robeson County four years ago, has a career of movie-producing behind him. He laughed recently when he told of his childhood acting. "As a young boy growing up in Pembroke, I built 'stupid' tents back of my parents' house, and put on shows. The neighborhood kids would take part or serve as an audience."

For three decades this na-tive of Pembroke rubbed shoulders with the greats and near greats of the film world. He started as a drama student at the Pasadena Playhouse, after a brief fling as a Pembroke State College student.

"Being only 18 years old at the time, I was frightened to death when I left Robeson County. There were 300 select students enrolled at Pasadena, which Gilmore Brown estab-iished in the early 1900's," he explained.

He had to have three written endorsements in order to apply for admission, and the only contact he had was with

"I first met Paul Green at PSC when he visited the campus and attended a little organit based on indians of North Carolina, held in the old gym in 1939. Even at that time, though I was still in high school, I was interested in going to Hollywood," he continued. Paul Green became one of the endorsers of Willie French Paul to MGM.

After only three months of study at Pasadena, Paul grad-uated into bit parts, and later formed his own producing company to turn out a wide variety of short subjects for theaters and television.

His first movie was 'A Mardi Gras Affair,' which featured Lucille Ball, who was then a virtual unknown. Through the late 1940's and early '50's Paul worked with celebrities like Deana Durbin, Barbara Stamyck, Cornell Wilde, Orson Wells, Rita Hayworth, Jimmy Durante, and Fanny Brice.

In the latter part of his film career, Paul flirted more than once with fame and fortune. His talent agency, Actors and Artists, he said had Michael Landon under contract, and later represented Donna Douglas, who made it big in the "Beverly Hillbillies."

Paul wound up his career as one of the founders of Globe International Pictures, a pro-duction outfit that made al-most 30 short subjects.

Today he lives alone at the 120-year-old homeplace on Second Street in Pembroke. He is involved in settling estates, that of his mother and an aunt. He sadly admits that he wants to go back to Hollywood-he enjoyed the exitement of show business. "There's little to do here in my field," he readily admits, "Of course, things could happen here, you know," he interjected.

In 1975, he founded The

Arts, Crafts and Sciences of The Motion Pictures, Tele-vision, and The Recording Industry, Paul's eyes lit up as he described his newest or ganization. The organization is designed to develop young talent in all races, but especi-ally in the Indian race.

He describes himself as a politician to a degree. But he doesn't like to get too involved. "I'm a Democrat and proud of it," he boasted.

Paul recognizes that one failure today of secondary schools in the community is that of not having established a sound drama curriculum. "That's why I founded ACS-to stimulate this interest in elementary and high schools,"

"This kind of activity is the kind of thing that would stimulate kids, and give them some kind of interest and keep them off the streets. Once a person appears on the stage, that is a proud person," he convincingly added.

eonvincingly added.

Paul had good things to say about North Carolina's newest outdoor drama, "Strike At The Wind," and felt it a great outlet for local talent. "They did such an excellent job in doing Strike at the Wind. I never dreamed it could be a musical, but yet that was my idea of Henry Berry Lowrie." He regrets that he was unable to take an active part in producing the production, but at the time, was involved in settling two estates. "They were so professional and organized, they didn't need me," he commented.

production which premiered this year was "the biggest surprise of my life. Its greatest attribute was people working together," he said.

working together," he said.

When not raising tobasco peppers in his garden. Paul keeps himself busy working on a pilot filmbased onthe people of Robeson County. He accepts the theory that the Indians of Robeson County are descendants of White's Lost Colony and said, "I have the facts. At one time, I actually had a company in Hollywood that was really interested in doing this film, but the budget was too small, and I stepped down." He thinks the story of Henry Berry Lowie would be ideal for television, but the violent part of the play would have to be reduced.

Bight now Paul's idea of

staving young is to keep doing something. He manages the 500 acres of property left in the Paul family estates.

Obituaries -

MRS. ELIZA DEESE

PEMBROKE — Mrs. Eliza Deese, 94, died at her home Saturday evening. Funeral ser vices were conducted at 2 p.m., on Tuesday at White Hill Church by the Rev. T.N. Swett and Luther Locklear. Burial was at the church cemetery.

was at the couren cemetery.

James W. Deese, Bert Deese, Neil D. Deese, and Earl Deese, all of Maxton: five daughters, Mrs. Daniel H. Graham of Laurinburg, Mrs. Roberta Hammonds of Rowland, Mrs. Odessa Deese Locklear, Mrs. Curtis Locklear and Mrs. Tommy Deese, all of Maxton; 56 grandchildren, and 30 great grandchildren, and 30 great great grandchildren.

Haggins.

He is survived by his wife Pobly Jacobs Locklear; one son, Fredrick Lyn Locklear; his mother, Joyce Locklear Griffin; his grandfather, Quessie Locklear; five brothers, Gene Locklear, Benny Locklear, Jr., Timmy Griffin, Kenny Griffin of Rennert, and Larry Locklear of Shannon; five sisters, Catherine Locklear May Locklear Of Shannon; for Sarah Locklear Hunt of Dillon, S.C., Mary Locklear Oxendine of Pembroke, and Arliene Locklear of Red Springs; seven aunts and one uncle.

MRS LENA O. CHAVIS

Burial was at the church

She is survived by her husband, Ulysses Preston Chavis: six sons, Freddie L. Chavis of Lansing, Mich., Earl B. Chavis of Lansing, Mich., Earl B. Chavis of Lansing, Mich., Earl B. Chavis of Lake (City. S.C., Grover Chavis, Donald A. Chavis, and James Lindberg Chavis, all of Pembroke: six daughters, Mrs. A.C. Locklear, Jr. of Holly Hill, S.C., Mrs. Douglas Hunt, Sr., Mrs. John E. Dohnson, Mrs. James Earl Lowery, Mrs. Only St., Mrs. John D. Johnson, Mrs. James Earl Lowery, Mrs. John Lewis Chewry, Mrs. Tommy Lowery, Mrs. Velton Deese of Pembroke, and Mrs. Marvin Blue of Lumberton; four brothers, Mr. Cearly Oxendine, Mr. Joseph Oxendine of Mr. Chess Oxendine, Mr. Joseph Oxendine of Mrs. Mrs. Tommy Lowender of Mrs. Mrs. Tommy Lowender of Mrs. Cearly Grenbroke, and Mrs. Huell Diat of Michigan; 27 grandchildren.

THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

