

### W.J. Strickland Appointed as HEW Fellow

W. J. Strickland has been appointed as an HEW Fellow for the 1976-77 program year.

He will serve as a special assistant in the Office of Associate Commissioner for Management and Administration, Special Staff for Equal Opportunity with the Social Security Administration. He will be primarily involved in reform of all administrative, program policy, procedural and operational impacts on Native Americans.

Prior to accepting his appointment at Department of Health, Education and Welfare, W. J. Strickland served as Executive Administrative Director for the Coalition of Eastern Native Americans in Washington, DC.

Born in Pembroke, NC, Strickland attended Prospect High School and later attended Pembroke State University where he received his degree in Physical Education.

He has been active in many civic activities. He has served as President, Pembroke Jaycees; State Vice President, North Carolina Jaycees; State Extension Chairman, North

Carolina Jaycees; President, Lumbee Regional Development Association; Board of Directors, North Carolina Manpower Development Corporation; U. S. Office of Civil Rights, American Indian Advisory Council, HEW; Board of Directors, Americans for Indian Opportunity; American Indian Leader's on Scouting; Order of Arrow Relationship Committee, Boy Scouts of America; Chairman, Coalition of Eastern Native Americans; and, President, Pembroke State University Alumni Association.

Mr. Strickland has also received many awards such as Outstanding Young Men of America; Who's Who in the South; Distinguished Service Award, Pembroke Jaycees; and the United States Jaycees President's Club.

The HEW Fellows Program is a one-year assignment as a special assistant to key officials with the Department of Health, Education and Welfare. The major objective of the program is to attract high level candidates from outside of the Federal Government who qualify for assignments at the senior management level.

### Department of Health, Education and Welfare To be reorganized

WASHINGTON (AP) — Health, Education and Welfare Secretary Joseph A. Califano, Jr. ordered his department reorganized Tuesday and directed the action will save taxpayers at least \$2 billion a year by 1981.

HEW beneficiaries probably won't notice many changes, although Califano said some forms will be simplified and red tape reduced. For example, Medicare recipients still will go to their local Social Security Administration offices for federal help even though Medicare will be administered by a new agency.

However, the changes will be more noticeable to states that administer many of HEW's programs and the doctors and hospitals who serve Medicare and Medicaid recipients.

"Although it is not possible at this time to give a precise estimate," Califano said, "the savings for the U.S. taxpayer related to these reorganization initiatives, especially those involving efforts to eradicate errors, fraud and abuse, will be at least \$1 billion over the next two years and will reach a total of at least \$2 billion annually by 1981." He also predicted it would make his department more responsive to the people.

At the White House, Press Secretary Jody Powell said President Carter told him some unnamed legislative leaders believe the savings could go "as high as \$4 billion to \$5 billion a year." Powell said Carter considered the action "a superb example of some of the steps that can be taken administratively to reorganize the government."

Under the new plan, all cash welfare and retirement programs, including the Aid to Families with Dependent Children program previously run by the Social and Rehabilitation Service, will be administered by the Social Security Administration.

A new agency known as the Health Care Financing Administration will take over both the Medicare program for the elderly, previously run by Social Security Administration, and the Medicaid program for the poor, previously run by the Social and Rehabilitation Service. The Social and Rehabilitation Service will be abolished.

All non-cash social service programs such as day care, foster care, health and mental health, family planning and adoption services will be administered by the Office of Human Development.

### Voice of Democracy Winner Given Rousing Send Off In Pembroke

An official Send-Off Program was given in honor of Alfreda (Freda) Jones, State Voice of Democracy winner, on Thursday, March 3, 1977 at 1:30 p.m. at the Pembroke Town Park. Ms. Jones is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James A. Jones of the Prospect community.

Foreign Wars (VFW). The first place winner receives a \$10,000 scholarship to the school of his or her choice; 2nd place, \$5,000; 3rd place, \$3,500; 4th place, \$2,500; and 5th place, \$1,500.

During her five day stay in Washington, DC Ms. Jones had an opportunity to meet her United States Senators and Representatives, visit the shrines and monuments in our Nation's Capitol, and observe firsthand some of the workings of our federal government.

Alfreda's essay, which was written for the Voice of Democracy Program, was entitled "What America Means to Me." It will be included in a local publication, Contemporary Lumbee Oratory, which is being compiled by the Lumbee Indian Education staff of Lumbee Regional Development Association (LRDA). This publication will also be submitted to Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah for possible inclusion in its publication entitled Contemporary Native American Address.

by Drenna J. Oxendine

Special guests and program participants included Mr. Archie Oxendine, Master of Ceremonies and Chairman, Voice of Democracy; Mr. and Mrs. James A. Jones, parents of the honoree; Rev. Harvey Lowry, Pastor, Prospect United Methodist Church; Mr. Monroe Lowry, VFW Post 2843 Commander; Mr. Reggie Strickland, Mayor, Pembroke, NC; Miss Lumbee 1976, Linda Locklear and her Chaperone, Ms. Florence Ransom; and the Junior Class of Prospect High School.

As a state winner, Alfreda received an all-expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. She was scheduled to leave on Friday, March 4, and to return on Wednesday, March 9. She competed for one of five National Scholarship Awards provided by the Veterans of

### Indian Education Draft Documents Ready for Perusal

Four draft documents recommending ways to improve Indian education programs are now available for review and comment by interested persons, the Bureau of Indian Affairs' Director of Indian Education Programs William Demmert announced recently.

Demmert said that the papers deal with "major matters of immediate concern to me." He said that he hoped Indian tribal governments, school boards, parents and other citizens would take the opportunity to read the documents and make their suggestions.

The papers are about 1) changes needed in the BIA boarding school system; 2) the provision of comprehensive early childhood education in Indian communities; 3) implementing sound bilingual education programs in Indian schools; and 4) policies and procedures for determining school construction priorities. Demmert said he planned to submit recommendations for BIA policy and program changes in these educational areas to the Commissioner of Indian Affairs by the end of March. He said he would also be participating in a March meeting with representatives from other Federal agencies to consider legislative, administrative, and regulatory changes related to Indian education. The Washington, D.C. meeting is being sponsored by the Federal Interagency Committee on Education. "At this meeting," Demmert said, "we will also consider these areas of concern from a somewhat different aspect—to determine where Congressional support or interagency coordination is needed or desired."

Copies of the draft papers have been distributed to BIA area offices and schools and to some Indian groups. Requests for the papers should be sent to Dr. William Demmert, Office of Indian Education Programs, Bureau of Indian Affairs, Washington, D.C. 20245. The papers range in length from about 20 typewritten, double-spaced pages to more than 50.

### Senator Abourezk will not seek Re-election

Senator James G. Abourezk, Democrat from South Dakota and advocate of Indian rights, has announced that he will not seek election to a second six-year term in the Senate.

Abourezk, who has served as chairman of the Subcommittee on Indian Affairs and of the American Indian Policy Review Commission, said he has no further plans to seek public office but will devote himself to his family and to private law practice.

He described his decision to retire from public life as "a personal decision" to allow time to fulfill his responsibilities to his family. The Senator said life on the Hill is personally draining and that he "never intended to remain in public life indefinitely."

It is said that Abourezk's championing of Indian rights has caused much criticism from non-Indian constituents and that their lack of support could have been a factor in his decision.

The news of that decision has been the cause of concern to Indian groups, who have counted on the Senator to work toward Indian rights and legislation favoring Indian causes.

Reprinted from United Indian Planners Association (UIPA News)


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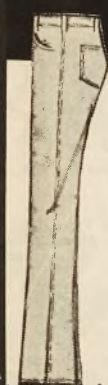
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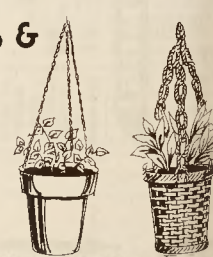
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