

THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE

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GROUND BREAKING CEREMONIES OFFICIALLY OPENS SEASON FOR FIRST AMERICAN COOPERATIVE, INC. WAREHOUSE



Shown above are the temporary ark of directors of the First American Cooperative, Inc. They are

(left to right) Weldon Locklear, acting chairman; Bradie Locklear, Elias Rogers, H. Dobbs Oxendine,

Lumberton-State tobacco marketing officials joined local officials Tuesday morning in breaking land for Robeson County's newest tobacco warehouse. First American Cooperative, Inc. located on Highway 1, approximately 2 miles east of Lumberton.

Warehouse is a member of the Lumberton Tobacco Board of Trade. That board's newly elected president, Ralph Hunt was on hand for the ceremonies which took place at 10 a.m. Also attending was J.T. "Tommy" Bunn, North Carolina Tobacco Marketing Specialist.

Construction contract on the warehouse was awarded to Myrick Construction, Inc. of Star, N.C.

Remarks also were made by O. Tom Blanks and Dr. M.L. Brooks, both long time enthusiasts for economic development in Robeson County. J.T. "Tommy" Bunn, representing the N.C. Department of Agriculture, also lauded the new venture.

Architect Cameron Brown of Star designed the steel and concrete structure which will allow 106,000 square feet of space. Seven personnel offices will be housed in the building which is situated on an 18 acre tract between Lumberton and Pembroke.

Attorney Horace Locklear, legal counsel for the newly formed coop, presided during the ground breaking ceremonies.

The nine-member board of directors wishes to have the warehouse completed, and ready to serve the people this tobacco-selling season.

Approximately 75 farmers and well wishers attended the ground breaking ceremonies, in spite of a very brisk and biting cold morning.

Auditions Held For 2nd Season of 'Strike at the Wind!'

This past weekend was audition time for the local outdoor drama, "Strike at the Wind!" located near Pembroke. Aspiring actors and actresses came from over the state to compete for the 60 roles in the show.

the Lumbee Indians and their folk hero, Henry Berry Lowrie. North Carolina's most notorious outlaw, Lowrie and his tri-racial gang were Robbin Hood figures to the poor and oppressed people during the period following the Civil War. The real mystery is that the Lumbee leader disappeared with a \$30,000 bounty on his head never to be seen again. Randolph Umberger has portrayed the triumphs and tragedies of all people during this time in the outdoor drama, "Strike At The Wind!"

Frank, you do the part of the sheriff Lee, you do the sheriff's wife," director Arthur McDonald instructed people on the stage. "Let's hear how your voice is," he yelled.

"We have several good possibilities for the leading role of Henry Berry Lowrie," said Lane Hudson, News Director for the drama, "about a half-dozen young men have tried out for the part but the final selections for all the roles will be Dr. McDonald's decision."

Over 150 persons braved cloudy after Saturday and Sunday mornings to display their talents. There were a five-year-old kindergarten; a retired gentleman from England; a retired nurse from Raleigh and Greenville; and of course, talent from the surrounding counties.

The group was told that if they were cast in the play, there would be 20 night rehearsals during the month of June and that there would be 28 performances as compared to 21 shows last year. Dr. McDonald also told the group they would receive an honorarium of \$200 at the season's end.

"Wonderful response," remarked Dr. McDonald, "as is evident from the turnout, this year's show will be quite different. Next comes the hard part of casting the various persons in the roles."

"Even if a person was in the show last year, he isn't guaranteed a slot in this summer's production," said McDonald. "We have had about 19 of last year's cast to audition for the '77 show. There will be many new faces in the drama, and some old faces from last year will be in different roles."

Dr. McDonald, who also directed the show in its first season in '76, is professor of Theatre at St. Andrew's Presbyterian College in Lenoir. He is given much of the credit for the show's success in its premiere season when over 17,000 persons saw "Strike At The Wind!" In a comparison of statistics released by the Institute of Outdoor Drama in Chapel Hill, the Robeson County show was the most successful new outdoor drama in the entire nation last year.

According to General Manager Rock Kershaw, people are still needed to work backstage with lighting, sound, costuming and props. Anyone interested should contact the "Strike At The Wind!" office.

The show is different from most other productions of the same nature because "Strike At The Wind!" Blacks are cast as Blacks, Indians as Indians, and Whites as Whites. Most shows don't race specifically, and usually White people Indians don't red paint to come Indians.

"Strike At The Wind!" will play each Wednesday through Saturday, June 29 until August 13, at the Lakeside Amphitheatre near Pembroke. For more information, call (919) 521-2401.

"Strike At The Wind!" is the story of

2nd Annual Indian Unity Conference Held In Greensboro

Co-sponsored By L.R.D.A. And N.C. Indian Commission

The three day N.C. Indian Unity Conference ended last Friday in Greensboro. Some two hundred Indians from North Carolina attended the second annual event co-sponsored by the N.C. Commission on Indian Affairs and the Lumbee Regional Development Association, Inc.

On Wednesday, the conference was addressed by Dr. H. Lindy Martin, dean of Student Affairs at Sanford University in Birmingham and Dr. George Blue Spruce, Jr.

Dr. Martin is a native of Robeson County and is tentatively planning a race for the U.S. Senate in Alabama.

Dr. Blue Spruce, Jr. is chairman of the Intra-Department Council on Indian Affairs, HEW.

Dr. Blue Spruce, Jr. cautioned the audience to be wary of a growing national feeling that Indians "have received too much too soon..."

A list of about 100 recommendations prepared by the American Indian Policy and Review Commission could be affected by a growing national feeling that Indians "have received too much too soon," an Indian federal official said Wednesday.

"People are saying that Indian people have never had it so good as in the last 10 years," explained Dr. George Blue Spruce, chairman of the Intra-Department Council on Indian Affairs, Department of Health, Education and Welfare.

"There is a feeling Indians are benefiting too much from the citizen tax dollar."

Blue Spruce, saying this antagonism as a paradox, described the Indian still ranks at the bottom in housing, employment and education. He said the recommendations of the policy and review commission, if accepted, could change the way of life for the American Indian.

Two of the recommendations of that commission, which will be presented to Congress, are self determination for Indians (with the power to levy taxes) and recognition of Indians as a sovereign nation.

Blue Spruce was in Greensboro Wednesday as the opening speaker at a three-day Indian Unity Conference at the Hilton Inn. The second annual conference is sponsored by the N.C. Commission on Indian Affairs and the Lumbee Regional Development Association, Inc.

Blue Spruce told about 200 Indians the apparent growing antagonism against Indian affairs is resulting in budget cut-backs in programs started in the early 70s.

He said the past five years were a "heyday" for Indian affairs, with Congressmen jumping on the bandwagon to support legislation.

The legislation has helped, Blue Spruce explained, but there have been problems. He said the use of the money is not evenly distributed among all Indians, with Indians living on reservations receiving the bulk of the funds.

Representatives of Indians groups in North Carolina are attending the three-day conference as a means of sharing concerns and needs. Resolutions identifying those concerns will be drafted and sent to both state and federal officials.

One resolution, according to Kenneth Maynor, executive director of the Lumbee Regional Development Association, will support the additional funding for Indian programs. The group also would like to have the funds evenly distributed between all Indian groups.

In addition to giving the various Indian groups an opportunity to participate in workshops (with state officials) on housing, discrimination, education and federal and state legislation, the conference also hopes to improve the image of N.C. Indians, Bruce Jones, executive director of N.C. Commission on Indian Affairs, explained.

"Not many North Carolinians realize that this state has the fifth largest Indian population in the country," Jones said. He said there are about 44,000 Indians in the state—Coharies, Haliwas, Lumbees, Tuscaroras, Cherokeses and Wacmahs Siouxans.

The special speaker at the banquet Thursday night was Howard Lee, the secretary of Natural and Economic Resources. He encouraged the participants at the conference to stay "on the firing line." He noted too that Indians and Blacks were under represented at the department he was recently named to head and he promised to change that by bringing in "good Indians and Blacks" who can take part in the governmental process by working within the bureaucracy.

He encouraged Indians to stay on the firing line and to not give up no matter what the adversity. He recalled some of his recent disappointments, including a loss in a race for a congressional seat and his most recent loss in his try for Lt. Governor of North Carolina. Said Lee, "I promised myself a long time ago that I would never give up, never lower my standards and that I would always have a sense of pride...that I would always hold my head high." Lee also stressed economic development.

The conference concluded Friday with an unexpected address by Labor Commissioner John Brooks, and a series of work shops on aspects of life affecting Indians in North Carolina.



Bruce Jones, director of the N.C. Commission on Indian Affairs, is shown addressing the audience Thursday night. Shown at the dais with him are (left to right) Howard Lee, secretary of the Department of Natural and Economic Resources.

Rep. Horace Locklear, who introduced the speaker: Kenneth Maynor, director of Lumbee Regional Development Association and Rev. James H. Woods, Chairman of the Board of Lumbee Regional Development Association.

Pembroke Welcomes New Dentist

PEMBROKE-NEW DENTIST IN TOWN: Dr. and Mrs. Edward E. Livingston, and daughters, Dawn and Gena, were welcomed to Pembroke by the lovely Miss Lumbee, Linda Gail Locklear at a reception held in their honor Sunday afternoon at Sim's Restaurant.

Said Dr. Livingston, "Pembroke was just the kind of town we were looking for, a small and friendly town without a dentist. I've found the people here to be friendly, and though Pembroke is smaller than Kinston (where the Livingstons are moving from), their hearts are larger..."

Mayor Reggle Strickland gave them a key to the city and officially welcomed them to Pembroke. The town has been without a full time dentist and many organizations and individuals joined hands to welcome the Livingstons to town.

Presently Dr. Livingston is open from Wednesday through Saturday but expects to open full time as soon as he closes down his practice in Kinston where the Livingstons formerly resided.

Hostesses for the reception were Mrs. J.J. Juren and Mrs. Julian Ransom.



Miss Lumbee, Linda Gail Locklear, was among the many notable and townspeople who welcomed the

Livingstons to Pembroke. (Elmer Hunt Photo)

people and places and things

PEMBROKE RECREATION COMMISSION SPONSOR PLATE SALE

The Pembroke Recreation Commission will be having a chicken and barbecue plate sale on Friday, April 15, 1977 from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. at Pembroke Town Hall. Tickets may be purchased at \$2.00 each from Police Chief Vernon Oxendine or any Recreation Commission member.

NATIVE ROBESONIAN EVANGELIST TO VISIT AREA

Evangelist William Earl Chavis, formerly of Pembroke, N.C. and now making his home in Taylor, Mich. is in Evangelistic work full-time.

March 6, 1977 Rev. Chavis was guest speaker at First Free Will Baptist Church of Flint, Mich. where there was 2 souls saved.

March 13, 1977 Rev. Chavis was guest speaker at the Christian Fellowship Mission in Detroit, Mich. with Bro. Lee Locklear of the Pembroke area, who is now making his home in Michigan. The Lawson Family was with Rev. Chavis to sing at this service.

March 19, 1977 Rev. Chavis was in Pine Knot, Kentucky for a revival meeting at Stonehill Baptist Church. March 27 he will be at the United Baptist Church for Revival.

Rev. Chavis will be enroute to the Pembroke area for Revival at Harpers Ferry Baptist Church April 3, 1977 where Rev. Steve Jones is pastor.

Rev. William Earl Chavis will participate in two other revivals in the Pembroke area with Rev. Roy Maynor and Rev. S.D. Cummings.

PROSPECT HEAD START CENTER ACCEPTING ENROLLMENT APPLICATIONS

Now until April 15, 1977 Prospect Head Start Center will be accepting applications for enrollment. Children must be 4 years old by the 15th of October. The Center also accepts handicapped children. Applications may be obtained from the Center between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Center is located beside Old Prospect United Methodist Church. Birth certificate and short records required. Those interested and unable to come by the Center for applications may call 521-9200 and someone will come to the home. Operated by Four-County Community Services.

HALIWA INDIAN TRIBE PLANS POW WOW

The Haliwa Indian Tribe is planning a Pow Wow April 15 beginning at 4 p.m. Main event starting 11 a.m. Saturday, April 16. Guest speaker will be Mr. Joseph W. Neale, Shawnee, American Indian Advisor for Students at American University, Washington, D.C. He will be assisted by A. Bruce Jones, Executive Director, N.C. Indian Commission.

PEMBROKE JAYCEES AND JAYCETTES SPONSOR PLATE SALE

The Pembroke Jaycees and Jaycettes will sponsor a plate sale on Friday, April 22 in the Pembroke Town Park between 10:30 a.m. and 3:30 p.m. Tickets are currently being sold for two dollars each. All proceeds will go to Miss Lumbee, Linda Gail Locklear, to help defray expenses for her competition in the Miss North Carolina Pageant in June.

Any donations will also be appreciated.

DAV CHAPTER SPONSORS GOSPEL SING

The DAV (Disabled American Veterans) Chapter 47, of Pembroke, N.C. will go to the V.A. Hospital in Fayetteville March 29, 1977 to sponsor a gospel sing which will begin at 7 p.m.

Singers will be The Chavis Sisters Quartet from McColl, S.C.; The Island Grove Baptist Church Choir of Pembroke, N.C. Everyone is welcome!

NEW DETHEL REVIVAL TO BEGIN

Revival begins Sunday night, March

27, 1977 at New Bethel, Rt. 3, Fairmont and runs through April 2. The Revivals begin at 7:00 p.m. Sunday night and at 7:30 p.m. on all other nights. Special music will be provided by choirs and quartets each night. Rev. (Jake) Douglas Mitchell and Rev. Tommy Higgins will be guest speakers. The public is cordially invited to attend.

SPRING CONCERT TOUR OF PSU'S "SINGERS AND SWINGERS" SET MARCH 29-APRIL 1

PEMBROKE--The annual Spring concert tour of the Pembroke State University "Singers and Swingers" will be held Tuesday through Friday, March 29-April 1, with eight performances scheduled.

The tour will be climaxed by a special "Singers and Swingers" Spring Concert at 8 p.m. Friday, April 1, in the PSU Performing Arts Center. The performance is free to the public.

JOHN L. LOCKLEAR, JR. OUTSTANDING AGENT



John L. Locklear, Jr.

John L. Locklear, Jr., agent for Nationwide Insurance in Lumberton, NC has been recognized as one of the company's outstanding producers in 1976.

Locklear earned a Key Award by leading 700 Nationwide agents in North and South Carolina, Georgia and Florida in the sale and servicing of health insurance last year.

He has been a Nationwide agent since 1974.

HOLLIS LOCKLEAR JOINS RTI



Hollis Locklear

Hollis Locklear has joined the administrative staff at Robeson Technical Institute as the Veterans Aid and Financial Aid Officer. The announcement was made by R. Craig Allen, President. Locklear began his position with the Student Services Department last Wednesday.

A veteran of three years with the U. S. Army, Locklear completed an associate degree in accounting at Robeson Tech and received the most outstanding business student award. He graduated with honors from Pembroke State University with a degree in business administration. While at PSU he was employed full-time at Robeson Tech as Coordinator of Equipment and Coordinator at Evening Programs.

Locklear, his wife Jeanette, and daughter, live in Red Springs.