



THE CAROLINA INDIAN VOICE



Dedicated to the best in all of us

VOLUME 5 NUMBER 29
Publication No. 978380

PEMBROKE, NC

THURSDAY, JULY 21, 1977

15¢ PER COPY

FIRST AMERICAN COOPERATIVE WAREHOUSE BEGINS SALE OF TOBACCO



The Board of Directors of First American Cooperative Warehouse pose with the first tobacco placed on the floor of the spacious and modern warehouse for sale. The tobacco belonged to Timothy Strickland and Thomas Lowry. The first tobacco sold at First American Cooperative Warehouse belonged to Mr. Timothy Strickland, also a board member.

It was history in the making and the board members' sober demeanors reflect the fact: they are (left to right) seated Lacy Collins, Timothy Strickland and Weldon Locklear, president. In the rear, left to right, are Rufus Burns, Jr., Ernest Almond, Dobbs Oxendine, Braddie Locklear and Bobby Moody.



And the first sale at First American Cooperative Warehouse in progress. Elsewhere on the Border Belt, prices ranged from a low of 48¢ to a high of \$1.26 for high grade.

ROBESON COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEET

Following up on last week's meeting of interested citizens concerning the possibility of Robeson County being designated the pilot county in a Gov. Hunt proposed adult literacy thrust, Rep. Joy J. Johnson appeared before the county commissioners and asked them for evidence of their support Monday.

Rep. Johnson initiated efforts to have Robeson County named the pilot county and said the \$50,000 from the county commissioners would show good faith that Robeson County is serious about attacking illiteracy among the adult population. Gov. Hunt has not made a decision about the proposed program yet although many contend that Robeson County would be an ideal county to initiate such a pilot program because of its unique tri-racial populace and the resulting 36% of identifiable

illiteracy in the county.

The \$50,000 is to be given only if Robeson County is designated the pilot county in the still nebulous proposal explored by Gov. Jim Hunt in a recent 'Under the Dome' column in the News & Observer in Raleigh.

ANTI-RECESSION FUNDS GIVEN ROBESON COUNTY SCHOOLS

The county commissioners also gave the six school systems in Robeson County \$100,000 on a per pupil basis for use in their respective school systems. Robeson County Administrative School Unit will receive approximately half the money because they have approximately half the pupils enrolled in the county.

In The Pines Cafe Now Open For Business



Local businessman (and actor) Carnell Locklear, who is a State Manpower Specialist, has recently opened an eating establishment across from the Riverside Country Club and has named it appropriately after his role in the outdoor drama, "Strike at the Wind!" in the role of "Boss Strong," the brother-in-law to Lumbee folk hero, Henry Berry Lowrie (played by Melton Lowry), Locklear and Lowry sing a haunting rendition of an old folk ballad, "In the Pines." And even though there isn't a pine within 100 yards, Locklear named his business, the "In the Pines Cafe," and his main sandwich? The "Boss Burger" of course!

people and places and things

BLOOD PRESSURE DAY

The Rowland Indian Community Organization will sponsor a Blood Pressure Day on Sunday, July 24, at the Courthouse in Rowland, NC. The general public is invited to come out and have their blood pressure checked between the hours of 2 p.m. and 5 p.m.

beginning at 10 a.m. with a break for lunch from 12 noon until 1 p.m. The singing is sponsored by the conference and all choirs are invited to attend. The public is cordially invited to attend. Last year 14 choirs attended and participated in the morning session.

PEMBROKE INSTRUCTOR DIRECTS OUTDOOR DRAMA

Pembroke drama instructor Don Dalton is spending the summer months directing the Valdese outdoor drama, FROM THIS DAY FORWARD.

From This Day Forward, the moving drama that tells the story of the Waldenses, a group of Northern Italians that were persecuted for their beliefs, is presented in historic Valdese, NC, the town they founded in eastern Burke County in 1893.

Don is spending his first year with the drama, which is performed each Tuesday through Saturday night at 8:45 p.m. in the Old Colony Amphitheatre in Valdese.

From This Day Forward ticket information can be obtained by writing Old Colony Players, P. O. Box 12, Valdese, NC 28690, or by calling (704) 874-0176.

HENRY WARD OXENDINE JOINS PAROLES BOARD

Henry Ward Oxendine, an Indian attorney from Pembroke, was sworn in Monday as a member of the newly revamped N.C. Board of Paroles. Oxendine, formerly the first Indian to serve in the N.C. General Assembly when he was appointed to fill an unexpired term in 1973, now becomes the first Indian to ever serve on the North Carolina Board of Paroles.

The paroles board Oxendine joins is a new one, created by the North Carolina General Assembly this year at the behest of Governor Jim Hunt. The general assembly passed a reorganization act which deleted the former paroles commissioners' jobs June 30 and gave the governor power to name his own paroles commission.

Oxendine, who will be paid \$27,756 a year, joins Jane Greenlee, McDowell County commissioner; Rae H. McNamara, a state employee who has worked on personal matters for the department of corrections; J.C. Jones, Dean of Students at Fayetteville State; and James C. Woodard, clerk of court of Johnston County, who will serve as chairman.

Besides Oxendine, who is an Indian, the board includes two women and a black, Jones from F.S.U.

Hunt said he expected the new paroles board to approve paroles "based on one qualification and one condition and that is whether or not that person is entitled to be paroled."

Hunt also said that he expected the new paroles board to question members of the inmate's hometown before they make a final decision on whether to release him.

ROBESON COUNTY FARMERS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR LOANS

Robeson County farmers are eligible to apply for emergency loans due to losses resulting from excessive rainfall in May and June. J. Phil Carlton, Secretary of Crime Control and Public Safety announced today.

Gov. James B. Hunt, Jr., made the official request that the loans be provided after learning of the condition of crops in Robeson County damaged by excessive rainfall on May 19-24 and by hail, rain and windstorm on June 6.

Provided under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, the loans are administered by the Farmers Home Administration (FHA) of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Applications for physical losses may be made through August 29. Applications for production losses may be made through March 30, 1978. The FHA supervisor for Robeson County has information on applying for the loans.

In making the announcement, Carlton said he was pleased that the U.S. Department of Agriculture accepted his request for emergency loans. "I consider this a part of the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety's continuing effort to respond to the needs of our citizens in emergencies," Carlton said.

PEMBROKE JAYCETTES AWARD SCHOLARSHIP

The Pembroke Jayettes presented a \$100 scholarship to a Pembroke Senior High School student. The recipient was Valerie Roberts, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jim Poorboy. Valerie plans to enter Pembroke State University this fall.

The Pembroke Jayettes are planning to make this scholarship award an annual event.

FORMER ROBESON COUNTY TEACHER ACCEPTS OVERSEAS POSITION

Juanita Nicholson, former Robeson County teacher has accepted a job with the Department of Defense Schools Overseas. She and her two young children, Mike, 16, and Sandra, 14, are leaving for Aschafenburg, Germany August 15th for a two year tour.

Juanita is the daughter of Clarence Sampson of Route 1, Pembroke and is a 1969 graduate of Pembroke State University. She taught at Parkton School for four years, taught two years in Tampa, Florida and has spent the past two years teaching for Columbus City Schools, Columbus, Ohio. Juanita plans to do graduate studies while in Germany.

GOVERNOR HUNT NAMES APPOINTEES TO PSU BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Gov. Jim Hunt has appointed Mrs. Geneva Parrell of Parkton and Harold B. Wynn of Lumberton to serve on the Board of Trustees of Pembroke State University. Mrs. Parrell is a member of the board of directors of the Parkton Historical Foundation and is also secretary-treasurer of the organization.

Wynn is an assistant principal with the Robeson County School System. He has served as an outreach counselor for the past two summers at Robeson Technical Institute. He is a past president of the Saddlecree Jaycees and a past vice president of the North Carolina Jaycees.

The Board of Trustees is composed of 13 members-eight elected by the Board of Governors, four appointed by the Governor and the president of the student government association as an ex-officio member.

The purpose of the Board is to promote the development of the institution, helping it serve the state in a way that will complement the activities of the other institutions and helping it to perform at a high level of excellence. The new members will serve a term of four years.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY TO BE OBSERVED AUGUST 27

The golden wedding anniversary of Colonel and Macie (Trixie) Locklear will be observed at the Green Pine Church on August 27 from 5 until 8 p.m. All friends and relatives are invited to attend and help in the celebration of 50 years of wedded bliss.

ANNIVERSARY SINGING TO BE HELD AT NEW PROSPECT CHURCH

On Sunday, July 24, the Lumber River Conference will hold their 77th anniversary singing at New Prospect Holiness Methodist Church on Highway 710, Pembroke. It will be an all day singing

AN OPEN LETTER ON N.C. COMMISSION OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Ruth D. Woods

'Tis a sad day for Native Americans across the State of North Carolina. In the midst of their multiple problems in trying to seek recognition, their own State Agency has now become a part of the State Department of Administration as the result of action by the N.C. State Legislature last month. This comes right on the tail of the recommendations of the American Indian Policy Review Commission that Indians do not receive adequate services and attention through bureaucratic agencies, and that separate organizations should be designed to represent the needs and problems of Indians. It appears that instead of keeping pace with the national trend in affairs, we in North Carolina have allowed ourselves to become "boondoggled" by politicians and power-seekers.

SOME BACKGROUND
In March, 1969, I was approached by Rod Locklear, Horace Locklear, Ronald Revels and some others to develop a proposal to establish a Lumbee Indian Advisory Committee on Lumbee Indian Affairs. In my Governor's Coordinating Committee on Lumbee Indian Affairs, I developed a proposal as requested by these fellows to be submitted to Governor Robert W. Scott. The goals of this Advisory Committee was to (1) accomplish a more concentrated and intensive delivery of services from existing agencies such as health and welfare to the Indian community; to increase communications between the Lumbee Indians and other Indian groups; to encourage and stimulate pride among Lumbee Indians with new recognition from the office of the Governor; to establish a free flow and dissemination of information directly from the Indian community regarding education, training, and job opportunities, and to serve as a direct channel of information to the Governor relative to the status and activities of a particular segment of his constituency. This proposal was delivered to Governor Scott by Horace Locklear and was signed by the following: John W. Oxendine, Chairman, Steering Committee for an Advisory Council on Lumbee Indian Affairs; Luther Briner, Chairman, Robeson County Democratic Party; Ben G. Floyd, Jr., Clerk of Robeson County Superior Court; and other members of the Advisory Council on Lumbee Indian Affairs; Herman Dial, Horace Locklear, Howard Oxendine, Herman Revels, Jr. and Carmel Locklear

Mr. John W. Oxendine
Lumbee Indian Advisory Committee
Route 3, Lumberton, NC 28358

Dear John:

Some days ago Horace Locklear presented a proposal to me by way of Irvin Aldridge of my staff suggesting that there be appointed a "Governor's Coordinating Committee on Lumbee Indian Affairs."

I have reviewed this proposal carefully and have discussed it with members of my staff and others. I do not feel I can establish such a committee primarily because of the fact that I would then be in a position of having to establish a similar committee for Cherokee Indian Affairs, Negro Affairs, Jewish Affairs, and any other minority group. This could soon resolve in a proliferation of coordinating committees. If there is one thing we have too much of in government now, it is committees and commissions.

The North Carolina Good Neighbor Council is established for the express purpose of giving assistance and support to minority groups and causes within the state. I am going to discuss this matter with Mr. Fred Cooper, Chairman of the Good Neighbor Council, with the purpose of asking him to come forward with suggestions as to what might be done to accomplish your goals and objectives.

A plan may be devised whereby the Lumbee Indians can have a voice on the Good Neighbor Council and perhaps something can be done about having a representative in your area to give attention to the matter of job opportunities and appointments for Lumbee Indians.

I am very conscious of the strong support given me by the Lumbee Indians and I want you to know that I am grateful for that support. I am also very much aware of the fact that Lumbee Indians have not had a full voice in our State Government. It is my intention to correct this situation

as soon as possible.

Please me assured of my interest in your concern for improving the status of your people. I consider the Lumbee Indians to be full citizens of North Carolina in every respect. I am grateful that you took the time to write me about these concerns. It is good to have an expression of your views.

With kindest regards and best wishes,
Cordially,
Robert W. Scott

In September, 1970, I was contacted by Kenneth Franklin, a specialist in the Division of Human Resources, with regard to the possibility of creating a North Carolina State Commission on Indian Affairs, and in the capacity as Secretary to the Board of the then, REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATES, INC. (now LUMBEE REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION, INC.) If forwarded to him a great deal of background material and some comments to be considered in the creation of a North Carolina State Indian Commission. I regret that beyond that initial proposal mentioned above, and my correspondence with Ken Franklin, I do not have at my disposal the minutes of the meetings of the Planning Council, however, these should be on file at LRDA. Upon meeting in Raleigh that fall, representatives from all Indian groups, tribes and organizations from across the State of North Carolina met to discuss the possibility of creating a State Commission of Indian Affairs. It was at this point that I was elected by the entire body to serve as Chairperson of the Planning Council, a position which I held until the legislation was enacted to create the Commission. I distinctly remember making the comment at this first planning meeting that "if we have come here to design and create an agency for the good of Indian people, and one in which Indian people will have the deciding voice, then we are interested; but if we have come here to be used by the State of North Carolina to design an agency in the name of Indian people for the benefit

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The following is the response received from Governor Scott: